

The Brooklyn Paper

Including The Brooklyn Heights Paper, Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill Paper, DUMBO Paper, Fort Greene-Clinton Hill Paper and Downtown News

A Brooklyn
Papers
Publication

Published every Saturday — online all the time — by Brooklyn Paper Publications Inc, 55 Washington St, Suite 624, Brooklyn NY 11201. Phone 718-834-9350 • www.BrooklynPapers.com • © 2005 Brooklyn Paper Publications • 20 pages • Vol. 28, No. 11 BWN • Saturday, March 12, 2005 • FREE

WHO KNEW!

Residents slam park planners over 'non-publicized' meeting

Just 12 community members at Ft. Greene presentation

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Brooklyn Bridge Park planners were chastised this week by community members who said they might have viewed a model and presentation of park plans had they only known of the March 3 public meeting.

Instead, publicity by the Empire State Development Corporation in its "ongoing effort to provide information and solicit and incorporate public input," according to a press release by

the state authority, resulted in only 12 community members attending the meeting in Fort Greene.

The meeting, only the second public display of the planned waterfront open space, commercial and housing development since it was announced last December, was held outside any of the neighborhoods that would border the park — Vinegar Hill, DUMBO, Brooklyn Heights and Cobble Hill — where the interest in the plan is high.

Although giant sketches and images were propped on easels that lined the hallways at PS 287, at 50

Navy St. at Nassau Street, on Thursday, and a folding table outside the school auditorium was dressed with an attendance sheet and informational folders, something was missing. Nearly half an hour after the presentation was due to begin, at 6:30 pm, it became evident what had been overlooked: an audience.

"It's unfortunate that residents from Ingersoll and Whitman houses are not here, but I hope I can work with you to provide outreach of those residents," said Councilwoman Letitia James, who represents Fort Greene including the public housing developments near where the meeting was held. "All of them should have an opportunity to view this."

Neither Wendy Leverette, president

of the Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation (BBPDC), nor the Marino Organization, the public relations firm hired to represent project designers Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, would comment for this article.

"We issued a press release," said Deborah Wetzel, a spokeswoman for the Empire State Development Corporation.

That release was sent to "our entire New York City contact list, which is extensive, including radio, TV" and print media, Wetzel said. It was received by The Brooklyn Papers the afternoon of March 1, just two days before the scheduled meeting.

"We announced it at the public meeting that was held on Feb. 22 as

See **WHO KNEW** on page 4



Musician Cedric Turner poses across the street from the Candy Factory, at Middagh and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights on Monday. Turner was the last resident to be evicted by new owners.

Singing the blues

Worries arise over new high-rise plan

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Members of the Brooklyn Heights Association, in an attempt to block a nine-story development planned for a lot adjacent to 20 Henry St., are rallying to save a courtyard garden.

And while it is not a community garden, and not on city land, the petition is not so much about the garden as a strategy adopted to prevent overdevelopment of the long-quiet end of Henry Street that abuts Poplar Street.

Last March, members of the BHA met with the new owners of the building and courtyard, the Prædium Group, to view preliminary designs for the proposed building, which the developers plan to build atop the largely cement-covered garden. The building, the former Peak's Mason

Mints factory, is commonly referred to as the "Candy Factory."

By August, the new owner's plans became evident to the few remaining tenants of 20 Henry St., and their neighbors, when construction workers began drilling in the courtyard. The tenants called the city Department of Buildings, whose inspectors placed a stop-work order on the courtyard drilling, for which the work crew

had no permit. While work has not since commenced on the courtyard, all of the 20 Henry St. tenants have since been evicted.

The last holdout, jazz musician Cedric Turner, was forced out on Feb. 1.

With 20 Henry St. completely vacant, the BHA remains concerned about what the Prædium Group has in mind for the open space.

"They presented us with a design which we thought was much too big," said Tom Van den Bout, an architect who chairs the BHA's committee on landmarks. He described the design as "three blocks sort of joined together."

"There's a large block in the back of the property that anchors it, and it's two floors above the Mason Mints building," he said.

More importantly — and crucial to the BHA's argument —

See **CANDY** on page 6

City, state & Bruce agree: 'Yards the place for Nets'

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Gov. George Pataki and real estate developer Bruce Ratner signed a "memorandum of understanding" March 3 that officially spells out Ratner's plan to build a basketball arena and 17 residential and office high-rises on 21 acres of property emanating from the intersection of

Flatbush and Atlantic avenues.

The memorandum of understanding (MOU) calls for the city and the state to each pay \$100 million for the project.

A press release from the mayor's office touted the agreement as bringing "over 4,000 units of mixed-income housing," and Bloomberg called it an "historic project that will continue to energize the borough of Brooklyn."

According to the MOU, the developer's Forest

City Ratner Cos. will move Ratner's New Jersey Nets basketball team to Brooklyn for a period of no less than 30 years. They will also develop mixed-use, multifamily housing, and office and retail space, of which 4.4 million square feet will be housing, 321,000 retail and up to 2.1 million square feet office space.

In return, the Empire State Development Corporation, as a lead governmental sponsor of the

See **RATNER** on page 6



History at Borough Hall

Borough President Marty Markowitz unveils portrait of Brooklyn's first black state Supreme Court Justice, Oliver Williams, in Borough Hall's courtroom. The portrait is the first of a black dignitary to have a permanent place on the walls of Borough Hall. With Markowitz at the unveiling on Feb. 24 are (from left) Edna Moshette, Williams' son Oliver L. Williams, Williams' daughter Ann Messinger, state Supreme Court Justice Yvonne Lewis and portrait artist Donovan Nelson.

Heights gets tagged

Graffiti vandal hits five spots

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

A wave of graffiti vandalism has splashed across building walls in the north end of Brooklyn Heights in the past few weeks.

Both the commanding officer of the 84th Precinct and an officer of the Brooklyn Heights Association believe

the recent mess is likely the work of one or more local youths.

Judy Stanton, executive director of the BHA, said this week she'd received a call from a superintendent of several Heights buildings saying he noticed one of his buildings on Hicks Street had been hit.

"He went out to walk his dog on a Friday night [Jan. 18] at 9 pm, and then went to bed and got up at 10 am, the following day. That's when all the new graffiti had occurred," said Stanton.

She listed 30 and 55 Poplar St., between Hicks and Henry streets, as

having both been hit, as well as the entire facade, including the front door, of the Heights Veterinary Clinic at the corner of Hicks and Cranberry streets; the Cranberry's bakery and cafe at 48 Henry St. off Cranberry Street; and its neighbor, the Henry's End restaurant.

Although the witness did not want to be interviewed for this article, Stanton said he told her that he also witnessed three young boys wearing T-shirts from a local school, which she did not want to mention until she talked with the principal.

See **GRAFFITI** on page 17



At the corner of Hicks and Cranberry streets in Brooklyn Heights, passerby views newly painted graffiti on a veterinarian's office.

DWI IN PARK SLOPE

Cops: Drunk plowed into school kids

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

Police say a drunk-driving dad — who had just dropped his child off at PS 10 — plowed into a crowd of parents and children outside of the Park Slope elementary school, sending four children and adults to the hospital.

The March 8 incident happened 15 minutes before classes were to begin at the school, at 511 Seventh Ave. at Prospect Avenue. Police say that Jose Gonzalez, of Sunset Park, was drunk as he drove his white Chevy van and hopped a curb just when parents and children were crowding into the school at around 8:45 am.

Police said the man had just dropped off his son when the van suddenly lurched onto the sidewalk and smashed into a mailbox, sending a crowd of parents and young children scattering for safety.

Making matters worse, the school, also called the Magnet School For Math, Science and Design Technology, was set that morning to start pre-registration for pre-K classes, according to a message on the telephone answering machine of parent coordinator Madeline Seide, meaning that the parents and the youngest of children were descending on the site that morning.

The accident left a 36-year-old mother with a leg injury and her 4-year-old son crying with complaints of pain, said police, who said the two were taken to New York Methodist Hospital and listed in stable condition.

Six-year-old twin siblings were also hurt in the accident and taken to Kings County Hospital with facial injuries.

Gonzalez, 45, was sent to Lutheran Medical Center where he was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated, say police. Published reports said that when he

See **DWI DAD** on page 17

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Cops may hold key in girl's snowplow death

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

An attorney representing the family of a 10-year-old girl who police believe was killed by a city snowplow in

January, said this week that investigators now have a crucial piece of evidence. Attorney Beth Schlossman, who has filed a notice with the city of a pending \$50 million

wrongful death suit on behalf of the girl's family said police told her "they did find hair or one of her hairs and are doing some kind of new genetic testing [on it]."

Markita Jimenez Weaver was killed Jan. 23 as she sat on a snow bank putting plastic bags over her shoes so she could play in the nearly two feet of snow that fell on the city the day before. Witnesses say they saw a snowplow crush her into the mound of snow as it turned from Richards Street onto Wolcott Street, the driver apparently unaware he had struck the child.

Just after Schlossman learned of the evidence this week, she said, Markita's mother, Maria Jimenez, was granted official rights to her daughter's estate, and filed the complaint against the city. But the family's more immediate concerns have nothing to do with money or court dates, just a stepped-up effort from the city's public housing authority to transfer them from their ninth-floor apartment in the Red Hook Houses, which overlooks the corner of Richards and Wolcott streets where Markita was killed.

Schlossman said the family wants to be relocated to another school district so Markita's younger sister, the primary witness to the tragedy, can return to school without having to cross that intersection each day. Rakema Weaver, 9, hasn't been to school since the accident, and is seeing a counselor, the lawyer said.

"There's no way for them to avoid the accident if they're going to go to the same school," said Schlossman, referring not only to Rakema, but also Ronisia Weaver, 6. "We keep trying to get them transferred, but New York City Housing Authority offi-

Family plans to sue city for \$50 million

cial keep claiming they're held up in paperwork," said Schlossman.

Meanwhile, the police investigation into which if any of four Sanitation Department vehicles is responsible, is in its eighth week.

"Apparently the hair didn't have a root, and it was underneath the truck," said Schlossman, which is why it was hard for police to confirm whether or not it came from Markita Weaver.

Schlossman told The Papers last week that an investigator told her they had an idea of who the driver might be.

"He pretty much assured me they were positive that it was her hair," Schlossman said, "but they're waiting for the test results to come back."

Police sources said the genetic test results have not yet come back from the laboratory.

Although the city has not formally taken responsibility or apologized, a spokesman for the mayor's office called it "a terrible tragedy" and the city paid for the costs of Weaver's funeral. In order to accept the payment, the family was required to sign a waiver agreeing that the payment could not be used in court to suggest guilt.

Asked about the hair this week, a police department spokeswoman would only say, "The investigation is continuing."

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Laptop crooks strike Packer

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

A rash of laptop thefts struck students at the Packer Collegiate Institute, a private college-prep school in Brooklyn Heights.

In recent years, the academy at 170 Joralemon St., between Court and Clinton streets, has evolved into what the Upper School's director, Susan Fiebelman, called "a laptop school" with each student carrying their own portable computer.

Apparently it was enough to lure an opportunistic thief, as three laptops were reported stolen the past couple of weeks.

On Feb. 25, a 14-year-old student left her laptop in the hallway, at 1:15 pm, and when she returned at 2 pm it was gone.

Less than a week later, on March 1, an 18-year-old student attending an after-school activity set her laptop down outside her locker at 3:40 pm. Half an hour later, the \$2,000 Dell laptop, along with her international student ID, DKNY wallet and \$250 in cash, was missing, she told police.

And the very next day, between 10:30 am and noon, another student, 14, told police she left her laptop bag in the hallway with other students' bags while she was in a dance class, but after the class finished, noticed it was no longer where she had left it.

Among the things she reported to police as stolen, along with her pink nylon shoulder bag, was the \$2,000 laptop, her \$60 cellular phone, two textbooks and a \$250 iPod personal digital music player.

"What we have done is sent letters home to all Upper School parents, asking them to join us reminding their children to keep their bags in their lockers with combination locks were they're not using their laptops. That is our best defense," said Fiebelman. Packer, which prides itself on being the oldest private school in the area — it was founded in 1845 — serves a student body of 942 in preschool through grade 12 and represents "all five boroughs of New York City and parts of New Jersey," according to their Web site.

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Vacant apartment on Carroll Street is looted

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Burglars looted a vacant apartment March 7 in a building where tenants of other units had been storing their property.

According to two tenants of the building at Carroll Street and Polhemus Place, who both used the space and had special access and their own lock issued by the landlord to the vacant apartment across the hall, the property was last seen at 9:30 am that day.

At 5 pm, one of the tenants reported the apartment's door appeared to have been forced open, and numerous items were found to be missing.

Both tenants said they had a doorman who was supposed to check all the people who entered and left the apartment building.

Report: Fort Ham is crucial

The Brooklyn Papers

On the heels of a Department of Defense mandate to slash a quarter of the nation's military installations, Rep. Vito Fossella on Monday released a final report defending the Fort Hamilton Army Base as crucial to national security.

Prepared over the course of a year by the 23-member Task Force to Save Fort Hamilton, the 66-page report cites the 35,000 soldiers who pass through the base's recruitment program each year and the role the base plays in national security in making its case against closing the 180-year-old garrison. The Pentagon's Base Realignment and Closure Commission is expected to announce its recommendations by May.

The Fort Hamilton report will be delivered to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld this week, said Fossella.

Fort Hamilton is the only active duty military installation in the New York metropolitan area.

POLICE BLOTTER

"No one who came in the building didn't live here," the doorman reported, but he also told the police that he hadn't spent the whole day at his post.

A list of the missing items had yet to be provided at press time.

Union car burg

A woman who parked her car briefly on Union Street March 7 to go to a doctor's office returned at 11:30 am to find it had been broken into and \$1,300 worth of equipment stolen.

The victim, 42, told police she had only left the car unattended for half an hour between Eighth Avenue and Prospect Park West. Upon her return she noticed the rear passenger-side window was broken, and her car radio, a deep fryer and several pieces of medical equipment, as well as a black leather carrying bag, was stolen from her blue 1991 Honda Accord sedan.

Van-dalized

Someone vandalized a vehicle parked on the corner of Second Avenue and 10th Street sometime between when the owner left it parked on March 5, at 10 am, and when he returned the next day, at 12:50 am.

The victim, a 39-year-old deliveryman for a transportation company, had parked the

vehicle near his home during the weekend.

When he returned to the big, white, 2004 delivery van he found the small ventilation

windows on the driver's side and passenger's side had been smashed, and damaged was done to the other windows as well.

No entry

Burglars busted up the front door of an apartment inside a Degraw Street building while

the tenant was away between March 3 and March 7.

Upon the renter's return to his apartment near Fourth Avenue, he noticed damage had been done to the front door's screen, the front door lock, the door frame and glass had been broken. Nevertheless, the burglars were unable to gain entry.

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Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 28th day of February, 2005, bearing Index Number 000572/2005, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT HOUSE, COUNTY OF KINGS, 101 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 906, grants Robert Wallerick alias Robert L. Wallerick the right upon completion with the provisions of the Order to assume the name Robert Zeller. Present address is 185-10th Street, Apartment 1, Brooklyn, New York. The date of birth is March 18, 1977. The place of birth is Italy, New York. Present name is Robert Wallerick alias Robert L. Wallerick.

Notice of the formation SUNSET OREDOCO, LLC, a domestic Professional Limited Liability Company (LLC) Article of Organization filed with Secretary of State on 10/10/04. NY office location: 6865 Queens Boulevard, Suite 100, Rego, NY 11420. The LLC is designated an agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon Member to The LLC, 6865 Queens Boulevard, Suite 100, Rego, NY 11420. Purpose: To engage in the profession of dentistry. PSZ

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Brooklyn
March 17, 9:00 AM
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717 Kings Hwy.
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Brooklyn
March 18, 10:00 AM
Arch Diner
1866 Ralph Ave.
Corner of Flatlands

Brooklyn
March 22, 9:00 AM
Tiffany Diner
9904 4th Ave.
Cross St./99th St.

Brooklyn
March 23, 9:30 AM
Perry's Restaurant
3482 Nostrand Ave.
Btwn. Ave. U & V

Brooklyn
March 25, 9:00 AM
Del Rio Diner
166 Kings Hwy.
Cross St./W. 12th St.

Brooklyn
March 26, 2:00 PM
Tiffany Diner
9904 4th Ave.
Cross St./99th St.

Brooklyn
March 30, 10:00 AM
Vegas Diner
1619 86th St.
Cross St./16th Ave.

Brooklyn
April 8, 9:30 AM
Junior's Restaurant
386 Flatbush Ave.
Corner of DeKalb Ave.

Brooklyn
April 12, 9:00 AM
Socrates Restaurant
651 Manhattan Ave.
Btwn. Norman & Nassau

Brooklyn - Sunset Park
April 13, 9:00 AM
George's Rest. (Bi-Lingual)
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Cross St./57th St.

Brooklyn
April 13, 9:30 AM
Perry's Restaurant
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Dodger Hodges again left out of Hall by vets

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

Brooklyn Dodgers great Gil Hodges and Ron Santo were again denied entry into the Baseball Hall of Fame, raising doubts whether anyone can gain election through the hall's Veterans Committee.

It was the second straight shutout by the revamped committee, which includes all living members of the Hall and its writers' and broadcasters' wings, plus one holdover from the old Veterans Committee.

"It's almost impossible to go into the Hall of Fame the way the system is now," said Oliva, a guest coach for the Minnesota Twins during spring training. "It's ridiculous."

Hodges, who also managed the New York Mets to their first World Series win, and former Chicago Cubs third baseman Santo felt eight votes shy of the necessary 75 percent, with each appearing on 52 ballots (65 percent) in totals announced last week. Tony Oliva (45) and Jim Kaat (43) were the only other players to be picked on more than half of the 80 ballots.

Hodges was instrumental in bringing both New York franchises their first World Series trophies. His life and baseball career came to an untimely end on April 2, 1972, when, just two days shy of his 48th birthday, he suffered a heart attack during spring training. He was manager of the Mets at the time.

Hodges became part of baseball lore as one of the fabled "Boys of Summer" who brought Brooklyn their only World Series Championship in 1955.

After just one game for the Dodgers in 1943, in which he struck out twice and walked once, he went to war, and served in the Marine Corps in Okinawa. He returned to baseball in 1947. Brooklyn manager Leo Durocher made the third-string catcher a first baseman to make room for



Dodger great Gil Hodges, who made Brooklyn his home, was a fan favorite in the borough.

Roy Campanella. The position fit him like a glove. He went on to win Gold Glove awards in 1957, 1958 and 1959 as the best defensive first baseman in the league.

Hodges was better known for his strength at the plate, however. In 18 seasons, 16 with the Dodgers, he batted .273, had 1,921 hits and hit 370 home runs.

One telling fact that points to Hodges' rightful place in the Hall of Fame, said filmmaker Marino Amoruso, is his slugging power. From 1940 to 1960—an era in which some of the biggest homerun hitters of all time played, Hodges ranks sixth. Every other one of the top 10 home run hitters in that 20-year period, from Joe DiMaggio to Hodges' teammate Duke Snider, is in the Hall of Fame. For awhile he held the National League career record for grand slams, with 14. The record was later broken by Hank Aaron and Willie McCovey, who each hit 16.

Supporters point to first basemen like McCovey and Harmon Killebrew whose career batting averages were lower but have been inducted

into the Hall of Fame.

But for supporters of the push to enshrine Hodges in Cooperstown it is the team for which he played more than his individual stats that makes him worthy. Like Yankees shortstop Phil Rizzuto, whose numbers were excellent but not stellar, Hodges was part of a club that is collectively remembered as one of the greatest in history. In his time anchoring first base for the Dodgers, Dem Bums won seven National League pennants, and one World Series. They lost another two pennants on the final days of those seasons. Hodges played in 39 World Series games with Brooklyn, knocking in 21 runs. His World Series batting average of .267 is misleading. Hodges went a miserable 0-for-21 against the Yankees in the 1955 World Series but in his last four World Series he batted .364, .292, .304 and .391.

Jane Forbes Clark, the Hall's chairman, defended the process and said the Hall's board will monitor each election. She said no changes are planned for the next ballot, in 2007.

"We feel the current process works by upholding the Hall of Fame's very high standards for election," she said.

The old Veterans Committee, which usually had 15 members, was accused by some of cronyism and was abolished after it elected Bill Mazeroski, a career .260 hitter with a great glove, in 2001. The new committee first voted in 2003 and Hodges received the most votes but fell 11 short.

The Veterans Committee considers players who didn't get elected during their 15 years on the BBWAA ballot. After two elections, it remains unclear whether the current veterans group can form a consensus to elect any candidate.

"I'm of the opinion it's going to be awfully hard, and maybe that's how it should be," said Hall of Fame pitcher Tom Seaver, who was Hodges' ace with the Mets.

While 102 members of the Hall have been elected by the BBWAA, 149 by the Veterans Committee and nine by the Negro Leagues Committee, Hall president Dale Petrosky pointed out that the veterans group put in many 19th-century players. Of the 60 living Hall of Famers, only 12 were elected by the Veterans Committee, just seven of them players.

The current Veterans Committee votes every two years on players, every four years on a "composite" ballot of managers, umpires and executives. In 2003, former National League umpire Doug Harvey led that category with 48 votes, followed by former Dodgers owner Walter O'Malley (38) and former players' association head Marvin Miller (35).

Oliva said the committee should have to wait until 2007 to vote again.

"I think Bud Selig has to do something about it," he said, referring to the baseball commissioner. "Two years is too much to wait."

— with The Brooklyn Papers

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Kelly said the MTA hopes

to get an independent

assessment of the site's value, but,

referring to the Manhattan rail

yard, he added that bidders

"still have to go with the

precedent. Nobody ever gets

the assessed evaluation of the

market."

Because the issue had been

so public, Kelly said, the

agency did not need to make

a formal call for bids on the

Atlantic Yards site.

"This is not a big place like

that, where we're able to do

real estate deals," the MTA

spokesman said. "But a

barometer would be what the

market says for the West Side

yards."

The Atlantic Yards develop-

ment plans were announced

"It was a pretty vital com-

munity of people going on,"

Van den Bout noted.

But the recent push by the

BHA to preserve what once

was has gotten the goat not

only of the developer but the

recently evicted tenants of 20

Henry St. as well, many of

them the original artists who

inhabited the loft building.

"They did nothing to help

us when we were there,"

Karen Zebulun, a former co-

author of the building's tenants

association, said of the BHA.

Zebulun had lived in the

Candy Factory since 1976, a

year after the building was

opened. She was evicted last

November by the new owners.

"What's the garden? What

about the people who lived in

the building? What about the

artists that the building was

intended for?" Zebulun said.

But Van den Bout said it is

important to save that gated

open space, one of the few

developed lots in the historic

district.

While 20 Henry St. and the

adjoining courtyard both fall

within the Brooklyn Heights

Historic District, the open lot

can be developed with up to a

50-foot-tall building under

current zoning without fac-

ing in necessary landmarks

approvals.

Jo Anne Grafflin, who has

lived at 55 Poplar St. around

the corner from the courtyard,

since 1992, is afraid a tall

building at the corner will cut

off some of the natural light

on her block and change the

character of that section of the

historic district.

"A big building there would

not convey the idea of what

Brooklyn Heights is about

at all," she said. "It's sort of

eroding the 19th-century char-

acter of the neighborhood."

"We need the open space

on the corner there," she said,

so as not to "cut off the small

buildings down the street from

the light."

Sherida Paulsen, the archi-

tect hired by the new owners

to design the building planned

for the courtyard is a former

chairwoman of the city's

Landmarks Preservation

Commission. She said there

would be two new adjacent

buildings, but the design is not

yet completed.

"We saw it as a transition

between the lower scale of the

townhouses and the higher

scale of the towers outside of

the district," said Paulsen, re-

turning to the 30-story high-

risers along Cadman Plaza

West. "We thought it would

especially enhance the pedes-

trian streetscape. Right now

you have a walled off parking

garage."

The new design, she said,

would help "bridge" the vari-

ous types of buildings along

Henry and Poplar streets in

the northernmost section of

the Heights which, she said,

"is not a typical brownstone

kind of street you have on

St. George Hotel, the art deco

[Cranly apartment] building

... two wooden row-houses,

an old police precinct, across

the street [on Poplar Street],

there's brick apartment build-

ings and some landmarks-ap-

proved co-ops."

Paulsen said she has

worked with both the BHA

and the Municipal Art Society

in her redesign, and said,

"We've really been trying to

listen to their comments about

the design of the building."

"They've expressed con-

cern about how we build."

"Our position and our propos-

al is based on the fact that

there's not one single style

along Henry or Poplar street,

there's a mix of styles and

building types."

She described the planned

building as a "real red brick"

apartment building of nine

stories plus a penthouse, with

another portion standing four

stories tall along Poplar Street,

although BHA members said

the four-story portion was just

along the street wall but that

building is planned for nine

stories, as well, using a set-

back.

Paulsen expects renderings

to be available by the end of

the month, as they near their

March 29 hearing before the

Landmarks Preservation Com-

mission. Meanwhile, Commu-

nity Board 2 last month voted

to recommend disapproval of

the application to the Land-

marks Preservation Commis-

sion and has forwarded that

recommendation to LPC

Chairman Robert Trieney.

By Timothy Williams

Associated Press

A who's of Fortune 500 companies with business pending before the Bloomberg administration have donated to NYC2012, the private organization pushing the city's bid to win the 2012 Olympic Games.

The contributors include Robert "Woody" Johnson, heir to the Johnson & Johnson health care fortune and owner of the New York Jets, who wants the proposed Olympic stadium to be the new home of his football team.

Johnson's foundation has given more than \$1 million, according to an examination of NYC2012's contributor list posted on the organization's Web site.

Some observers complain that the donors to NYC2012, which has raised about \$47 million privately, are seeking to curry favor with Republican Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who is the chief proponent of bringing the Olympic Games to the city.

Another prominent contributor is real estate development company Forest City Ratner, which has given more than \$200,000. The company's principal owner, Bruce Ratner, is seeking city approval for a basketball arena for the New Jersey Nets at Flatbush and Atlantic avenues.

The company's plans have encountered neighborhood opposition because of its proposal to tear down housing in the area using eminent domain laws. But they have been supported publicly by the mayor, who on Thursday signed an agreement committing \$100 million of city funding to Ratner's project.

Among the firms that have given NYC2012 more than \$1 million and that also have city business are JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Goldman Sachs, which would help finance the new sta-

dium; Vornado Realty Trust, which is building a 53-story office tower for Bloomberg L.P., the mayor's financial information company; and The Related Companies, whose chief executive Steve Ross is a former business partner and close friend of Deputy Mayor Dan Doctoroff, who is NYC2012's public face.

The New York Sun reported in its March 9 edition that both Steve Ross' Vornado Realty Trust and Ross, of the Related Companies, will likely join the Jets to strengthen the team's bid to build a new football stadium that is also the centerpiece of the Olympic bid, over Metropolitan Transportation Authority rail yards on Manhattan's West Side.

That joining of forces is part of an effort, the report stated, both to add financing to the bid and also to add to the scale of the proposal, which must now compete with offers for the rail yards development rights with Madison Square Garden owner Cablevision and a bid by Trans Gas Energy, both of which have offered much more money to the MTA for the site.



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The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

March 12, 2005

Woody goes schizo

Allen's latest explores comic and tragic viewpoints of woman's life

By Karen Butler
for The Brooklyn Papers

Years after emigrating to Manhattan, filmmaker Woody Allen still credits his Jewish upbringing in Brooklyn for much of his inspiration and comic sensibility. "I was raised in a Jewish neighborhood, in a Jewish household, so naturally my idiom is where I grew up," the Flatbush-born Oscar winner told reporters earlier this week. "I've had this conversation with fellow Brooklyn-native filmmaker Spike Lee, at times, I could never convincingly write about a black family, and I doubt — I don't know — but I doubt if he could write convincingly — certainly not as convincingly as I could — about a Jewish family. Because you live it every moment, so it gets into your nuances."

Co-starring "Saturday Night Live" alum Will Ferrell ("Anchorman"), Chloe Sevigny ("Shattered Glass") and Chwetel Ejiofor ("Dirty Pretty Things"), Allen's latest film, "Melinda and Melinda," uses dueling comic and tragic points of view to tell two versions of the same story about a woman ("Man on Fire" starlet Radha Mitchell) trying to make sense of her complicated life.

Told by a journalist that the comic take on the tale seems to him distinctively Jewish, while the tragic version appears to have more WASPish qualities, Allen offered a rare laugh and said, "That's very funny."

"I don't think of it that way," he said. "But I guess people think of comedy for Jews all the time. I'm forever being asked why all the comedians are Jewish, and I always feel that they're not; that this is a misconception based on the fact that there were many Jewish comedians that came out of the Catskills."

Taking a moment to list a number of great non-Jewish comics — among them Bob Hope, Buster Keaton and WC Fields — Allen argued, "I don't think [comedy] is a particularly Jewish thing."

Acknowledging that his concept for the two-tone tale, "Melinda and Melinda," has been percolating for some time now, Allen said it first occurred to him while he was trying to decide if some of his other stories should fall into the realm of comedy or tragedy.

"There have been many times when I've had ideas that would have, I felt, worked either way," confided the former stand-up comedian who has cranked out a film a year for the past few decades and amassed a staggering 20 Oscar nominations. "The idea could have been written amusingly or as a serious story and, in the past, I'd always chosen one and gone in that direction and here I had an idea and I thought, 'Gee, this could be a serious story, but it could also make a funny and romantic story.' And then it occurred to me, why don't I alternate the two and see if I can do the picture and maybe learn something by juxtaposing the two?"

"Of course, I learned nothing," the 69-year-old filmmaker deadpanned. "It was fun to do, but not enlightening."



A laughing matter: (Left to right) On the set of "Melinda and Melinda," actors Will Ferrell and Steve Carell with director Woody Allen.

Best-known for writing and directing low-budget, New York-centric comedies like "Annie Hall," "Hannah and Her Sisters" and "Bullets Over Broadway," the Midwood High School and Brooklyn College graduate surprised journalists at the roundtable when he said he savored writing sad stories even more so than funny ones.

"I think it's fun to write the heavy stuff for me," Allen noted. "Because over the years, I've done a lot of movies and almost all of them have been comic, so it's fun to occasionally do something that is very, very heavy — just for the change. But then when I realized I was going to work with Will, I went back over the script and tried to customize it more for him and that became fun."

Describing Ferrell as "a big, silly person," who can also be quite vulnerable and sweet, Allen explained how he tailored the script to accentuate the "El" actor's gift for broad comedy, while changing some lines because they simply didn't suit him.

"There were things in the actual dialogue of the script that he couldn't do," Allen said. "Since I'm writing the dialogue, the tendency is to write it for myself, even though I know I would never be playing it. But I write it instinctively for myself, and I had to cut some

lines and dialogue because he just couldn't do it. It just never sounded funny when he did it, but there were things that he did do, that I could never imagine when I was writing it."

Clearly happy with Ferrell's performance, Allen extolled his virtues and emphasized that he didn't hold the actor's inability to deliver rapid-fire zingers against him.

"The kind of one-liner jokes that I do and that's easy for me to do and doesn't sound like a joke when I do it — it sounds like dialogue, but it's really a joke — comes naturally for me. It was not so natural for him," Allen related. "I had that problem with, believe it or not, [my frequent leading lady] Diane Keaton. She's someone who I used to write these sharp remarks for, these one-liners, and she could never do them. She's the funniest person I've ever met and always used to steal the picture from me. I always wrote the movie for me and wrote her a secondary role and when the movie came out, she was always the funny star and I was always the secondary part and she couldn't do those one-liners either."

Although Allen was known for working with a stock company of players in the 1970s and '80s, his more recent films have featured a variety of Hollywood A-listers, mixed in with fresh, new faces. Asked to describe his casting process, the filmmaker shrugged and said he really just considers who's best for the role, then who is available and then who will work for no money, "which is what we have." The hardest part about casting

"Melinda and Melinda," Allen revealed, was finding someone to play the title character.

"The hard casting was Radha. It was very tough to find somebody who could be very dramatic and convincing and handle the light, romantic stuff, as well," Allen said. "Sometimes when we were filming, she had to do it in the same day. She'd come in in the morning and she'd cry and threaten to commit suicide and then in the afternoon, she'd have to be light and frothy, and so it was very hard and I had never heard of her. I didn't know she existed even, and then I saw a scene from 'Phone Booth,' the Joel Schumacher film, and I thought she was very good. Very attractive and a very convincing actress."

Further viewing of the Australian actress' work and a single meeting with the blonde beauty, and Allen knew he had found his Melinda. Asked if he is amazed by how many Hollywood actors still clamor to be in his movies after all these years, the filmmaker replied with his trademark humility, "I'm not surprised, because they only work with me if they are between desirable jobs."

"If I call an actor or an actress and Steven Spielberg or Martin Scorsese is calling them — they're fine directors and offering them substantial amounts of money — they have no interest in me at all," he said. "But if they've just finished a picture and they've earned their \$10 million salary and they have nothing to do until August and I call them in June and they like the part, they say, 'Why not?'"

FASHION



Bag lady

Borough Park native Debbie Brooks unveiled her spring line of handbags at Artexpo at the Jacob Javits Convention Center on March 3. Called the Crystal Butterfly Collection, Les Pappillon, prices for her bags range from \$160 to \$350, depending on the materials chosen by the customer.

The posh accessories designer told GO Brooklyn that her road to success was paved with no small amount of ingenuity on her part.

"When I first graduated from Pratt [Institute], I was job searching, and I only had one pair of shoes," said Brooks. "So I spray-painted them different colors to match my interview outfits. My dream was to go shoe shopping."

Ten years later, Brooks' handbag designs are collected by Sarah Jessica Parker, Nicole Kidman and Renee Zellweger among other bold-face names. She will launch a new line of jewelry this fall. For more information, or to purchase a Debbie Brooks bag, visit www.debbiebrooks.com. — Gregory P. Mango

MUSIC

Vinton at BCBC

For those of us over a certain age, the name Bobby Vinton brings back memories of long summers, slow dancing and perhaps a first kiss. When Vinton burst onto the music scene in the early '60s, rock 'n' roll was at its height — but so was the romantic love ballad. And Vinton, with his curly hair, heart-melting smile and beautiful blue eyes (think Frank Sinatra) crooned those gooey songs with a sincerity that went straight to our young hearts.

Vinton's name at birth, Stanley Robert Vintula Jr., gives a better clue to his Polish ancestry than does his adopted name. But Polish-Americans always knew he was one of them. When he released "My Melody of Love," the only American song sung partially in Polish, it became a kind of Polish-American anthem.

On March 12, Vinton fans can hear all those old songs — "Roses are Red," "Blue Velvet," "Mr. Lonely," "Sealed with a Kiss" — live at Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College. But you don't have to love — or even remember — Vinton to enjoy his music. When the lights are low and the hour is late, no one says, "I love you! I will to the end! There I've said it again 'better than Bobby."

Bobby Vinton will perform at 8 pm on March 12 at Brooklyn College's Walt Whitman Theater (one block from the junction of Flatbush and Nostrand avenues in Flatbush). Tickets are \$50. For more information, call (718) 951-4500 or visit www.brooklyncenter.com.

— Paulanne Simmons

DINING

Feast to Saint

The Roman Catholic tradition of St. Joseph's Day, which falls on March 19, originated in Sicily during the Middle Ages.

Today, in celebration of St. Joseph's Day, a variety of traditional foods are prepared, which vary according to the part of Italy the celebrant is from.

Marco Polo Ristorante owner Joseph Chirico is inviting the public to celebrate St. Joseph's Day one day early, on March 18, at his Carroll Gardens restaurant with a special "Menu di San Giuseppe," created by chef Bruno Milone.

Appetizers will include the "classico arancino siciliano," traditional Sicilian rice balls with peas, chopped meat and basil. Pasta offerings will include "tubettini con ceci" (tubettini pasta with chickpeas and parsley) and "bucatini con sarde" (tube-shaped pasta with sardines, fennel, raisins and pine nuts). For dessert, choose from "pasta di mandorle" (an assortment of almond cookies) or zeppole (pictured above) and other traditional St. Joseph's Day pastries.

Marco Polo Ristorante is located at 345 Court St. at Union Street. For information about St. Joseph's Day menu prices, call (718) 852-5015 or visit the Web site at www.marcopoloristorante.com. — Erin Marie Daly



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BROOKLYN

Neighborhood Dining Guide

This week:
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Almondine

85 Water St. at Main Street, (718) 797-5026.
(Cash only) Pastries: \$1.50-\$4; sandwiches: \$6.
All of the baking is done on the premises at this European-style pastry shop, owned by chocolatier Jacques Torres (whose shop is across the street) and Hervé Poussot. Sifted rich desserts include chocolate cake on a cookie crisp with fresh fruit, the "macaron" (chocolate sponge cake, chocolate moussem, cream brulee and coconut in a chocolate shell), and various cookies and pastries. Baguette sandwiches change daily, ranging from prosciutto, mozzarella and roasted peppers to apples and brie, or try one of the quiches. Cakes for special occasions can be made to order, and some cakes are available in the showcase on Saturdays. Closed Tuesdays.



Herve Poussot (left) and Jacques Torres teamed up to create Almondine.

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On Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River, (718) 246-3963 (Cash only)
Scoops: \$3 for 1, \$5 for 2, \$6 for 3.
Open since 2001, this New England-style ice cream shack is located right off the East River on Fulton Ferry Landing. If the mercury rises, or if you just have a craving, try a triple scoop of any one of their seven classic flavors. Other flavor specials are available and change on a monthly basis. If you have an unusually large craving, go for the \$7.50 banana split, a heaping mound (three scoops) of ice cream, hot fudge, whipped cream and, of course, sliced bananas. Cold in the fall and winter, hours are Tuesday and Wednesday, noon to 10 p.m.; Thursday through Sunday, noon to 11 p.m. Closed Mondays. From Memorial Day through Labor Day, the factory is open daily.

Bubby's Pie Co.

1 Main St. at Plymouth Street, (718) 222-0666 (Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$7.95-\$19.95.
Bubby's, a TrillicEa staple, has done a good job of making a second home in Brooklyn. Since October 2003, chef-owner Ron Silver has been whipping up comfort foods, from meatloaf and gravy to St. Louis-style spare ribs, with loads of sides including macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes and collard greens. It's possible to leave Bubby's without trying a slice of any one of their homemade pies, after all, that's how they got their name. Sour cherry, whiskey apple and banana cream pies are just some of their specialties. Kids eat free on Sundays. Bubby's Brooklyn also offers a play area for children as well as a general store selling old-fashioned candy and T-shirts. Private party space available; for more information contact JoJo Ribart at joribart@bubby.com. Open daily for lunch and dinner, and for brunch on Saturdays and Sundays.

Front Street Pizza

80 Front St. at Washington Street, (718) 875-3700 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Plain slice: \$1.85; 18-inch round plain pie: \$12.50.
Although the name says "pizza," Front Street has just about everything to satisfy your hunger, from salads and colcassios to burgers and heroes, to espressos and decaf cappuccinos. Whole breakfast pizzas are available for \$3.65 and include choices of pancakes, French toast, eggs, homefries, toast, bacon, ham, sausage and cheese and come with your choice of coffee or tea. Daily lunch specials range from chicken cauli pizza topped to meatloaf. They even offer a salad sammich with lettuce, tomatoes, black olives, onions and oil and vinegar. The deli counter offers a full range of sandwiches. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Grimaldi's

9 Old Fulton St. at Front Street, (718) 858-4300 (Cash only) www.grimaldisbrooklyn.com. Large pizzas: \$14 and up.
The lengthy line at this award-winning pizza parlor are as talked about as the pies themselves. But if you don't mind waiting, the cool-down pizzas are among the best in the city. Lined with framed photos of the Rat Pack, this homage to Sinatra changed its name from Patsy's in 1996 to avoid confusion with another restaurant in East Harlem. The pizza, however, hasn't changed a bit. Try a hand-tossed with fresh mozzarella, or add a few toppings like sweet, roasted red peppers or sun-dried tomatoes. The pizza sauce is to die for. Grimaldi's doesn't accept reservations, and you can't buy pizza by the slice. But you'll be lucky if you can stop at just one or two slices anyway.

Jacques Torres Chocolate

66 Water St. at Main Street, (718) 875-9772, www.torreschocolate.com (AmEx, MC, Visa) Assorted chocolates: \$43 per pound.
Willy Wonka's got nothing on Jacques Torres, the former executive pastry chef of the four-star Le Cirque 2000 in Manhattan. In his DUMBO factory, Torres produces more than 35 different varieties of chocolates flavored with everything from Grand Marnier to Earl Grey tea and a variety of exotically flavored ganache — a mixture of chocolate, cream and flavorings. He's particularly fond of nuts, caramel and fruit. The passion fruit-filled hearts, in either dark or milk chocolate, are to die for. Despite

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Abbreviation Key: AmEx= American Express; DC= Diner's Club; Disc= Discover Card; MC= MasterCard; Visa= Visa Card



Bay Ridge

makeover

Samm's lounge is transformed; chef Segundo Guaman remains

By Tina Barry
For The Brooklyn Papers

Samm's Restaurant and Lounge has been around for six years, gaining a reputation for fine, simple American cuisine with a few international touches. In May, Michael Brooking bought the restaurant and, like a smart businessman, decided not to fix what wasn't broken.

Brooking wisely kept the original chef, Segundo Guaman, and updated the lounge area from its cluttered sofa and chair aesthetic to a come-to-the-Kashbah theme — complete with a tented ceiling, a banquet that borders the room and moveable screens for privacy. The two dining areas were tweaked slightly. They're elegant yet informal, a place where couples sit at beautifully appointed tables lit by mismatched chandeliers and the music is kept low enough for larger parties to converse without shouting. The one thing that needs fine-tuning

is the menu. Items such as Samm's "pupu platter" — an assortment of Asian hors d'oeuvres; vegetable dumplings in teriyaki sauce served with sweet potato fries; and buffalo chicken wings with blue cheese dipping sauce, are dated and don't belong on a menu that, while not innovative, are perfectly prepared and showcase fresh, seasonal ingredients.

I loved Samm's clams — a half dozen small, sweet clams with a light, crisp breadcrumb topping. This is one of those retro dishes that are often heavy and over-baked. Here the topping adds a bit of crunch to the soft shellfish meat. With a squeeze of lemon, they're perfect.

Another crowd-pleaser (that can be a real dud) is a moist, pan-roasted crab cake with very little breading and lots of crabmeat. At Samm's it comes with crisp coleslaw that's a little heavy on the mayonnaise, and house-made tartar sauce.

A milky, fresh homemade mozzarella



Samm-ple these: At Samm's Restaurant and Lounge in Bay Ridge, chef Segundo Guaman's linguine with clam sauce (above left) and grilled rack of lamb are classic crowd-pleasers.

plays the straight man to its cloak of salty prosciutto in the bocconcini appetizer. The little roll is served atop a thick slice of grilled tomato. That earthy tomato pillow and the drizzle of gold balsamic vinegar that tops the appetizer deliver a blast of exciting flavor.

The pasta is not terribly exciting. I'd nit the "blackened" chicken over porcini mushroom ravioli from the menu — blackened foods are a tad that hung around too long and shouldn't be repeated.

But the linguine with white clam sauce is everything I'd hoped it would be — the ring of small clams in their shells, sweet and tender, the broth sauce deep in clam flavor, the pasta al dente.

Order the grilled lamb chops and you'll receive seven that actually taste like lamb. They come with a crown of mustard bread crumbs that cut the richness of the meat. A heap of nutty asparagus and a mound of velvety mashed po-

tatoes mixed with scallions and bacon accompany the chops. The bacon in the potatoes may be a throwback, but I wasn't complaining.

The beef in Samm's meatloaf is too finely ground and dense for it to be anything but "eh." But I did enjoy the tangy Worcestershire-spiked gravy and the garlicky pesto dressed potatoes.

Samm's desserts are homey and pleasantly over the top. The banana and chocolate tart with its big ruffle of whipped cream looked like the clown cones I loved as a kid, but one taste and I knew this was an adult's dessert. That whipped cream is unsweetened and flavored delicately with cinnamon. The crust is crisp and buttery, and under a thick layer of bittersweet chocolate pudding sits slices of ripe bananas.

The combination of service that is warm without being intrusive, and the superb food makes dinner at Samm's an event to remember.



Get Baked

Not too far from the Red Hook croc pot, a team of sugar-loving business partners, including Matt Lewis of Manhattan's Chocolate Bar (pictured above with Ruffi Avramovitz, center, and Renato Polidoro, right), have opened Baked, a sleek little cafe with an emphasis on cake.

Cocount, carrot, chocolate and lemon layer cakes line the counter, along with specialties like Red Hook red velvet — topped with cinnamon butter cream and candied Red Hots — and the lard-based Chocolate Chubby, which looks like a king-size Hostess cupcake. Cupcakes topped with vanilla buttercream and whipped chocolate ganache are shown at left.

Many of the cakes at the bakery-cafe, which opened Jan. 11, are inspired by recipes found in vintage cookbooks, but with less sugar, says co-owner Polidoro, thereby making the other flavors more pro-

nounced. The result is a subtle, not-too-sweet cake with a fluffy texture.

Muffins, scones and other items are available for breakfast. The lunch menu, just launched, includes a selection of salads, soups and sandwiches.

It's too early to tell if Baked will win over any longshoremen — the modern-looking cafe, with knotty blonde-wood walls, an eclectic warm-back and retro light fixtures has a distinct hipster vibe — but friendly service and a consistently good cup of Joe (the house blend is made exclusively for Baked by Park Slope's Grilla Coffee) is sure to attract a solid fan base.

Baked (359 Van Brunt St. between Wolcott and Dikeman streets), accepts American Express, MasterCard and Visa. Cakes are \$4 a slice; 8-inch cakes start at \$20. For information, call (718) 222-0345 or visit www.bakednyc.com. — Jaime Joyce

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Bourne original

Director-choreographer's latest work 'Play Without Words' comes to BAM

By Kevin Filippski
for The Brooklyn Papers

Joseph Losey's 1963 film "The Servant," scripted by playwright Harold Pinter, tells a sinister tale of the scheming title character (played with nasty gusto by Dirk Bogarde) who gradually begins controlling his master's very existence. Set in the modishly swinging London of the early '60s, "The Servant" doesn't seem to be the kind of movie anyone would necessarily think to make into a dance-theater piece.

Well, think again. Director-choreographer Matthew Bourne—who created a sensation several seasons ago on Broadway with his all-male "Swan Lake"—which picked up three Tony Awards—is the rare ballet to make it big on the Great White Way—comes to Brooklyn for the first time with his newest work, "Play Without Words," at the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Harvey Theater March 15 through April 3.

Bourne explained via e-mail from England just how he turned Losey and Pinter's "The Servant" into "Play Without Words."

"When I watched the film years ago, I thought it would make a great, intimate piece," he wrote. "It's almost a series of duets about changing relationships. So that's where the idea came from."

Bourne was also struck by the film's specific period setting, which is as much a character in the story as the people.

"I just love the whole period of the early '60s," wrote Bourne. "The big changes in society happened in the late '60s: this was the beginning when people were stuck in their old ways but there were twinklings of the revolution that was to follow. I find that time so interesting. There's a certain amount of repression, of keeping secrets—it's great to play with dramatically. Suggest-



Alan Vincent and Saranne Curtin in Matthew Bourne's dance theater work "Play Without Words," which opens March 15 at the BAM Harvey Theater.

tiveness through movement works better than blatant sexuality."

To be sure, "Play Without Words" is not merely a straightforward adaptation of the film, so those who are expecting to see "The Servant" recreated onstage will be sorely disappointed.

"While I wanted to recreate a sense of the story, I did not feel completely tied to it," Bourne noted. "So when we made the piece the company and I all watched many, many films from the era to really learn about the way people moved in those days, what they wore and how they held themselves."

"This gave us our characters, and it was through close improvisation that

we gradually found ways to tell the story of the piece," he continued. "For example, the idea of having several people onstage at the same time playing the same character came from an improvisation in which I asked the company to [pair off] and try doing the same thing. What I saw were several good ideas all coming to life at the same time."

"Play Without Words" reunites Bourne with composer Terry Davies, with whom he collaborated on "The Car Man: An Auto-Erotic Thriller" for the London stage a few years ago. Since the current production has no dialogue, all of the action, story and char-

DANCE

New Adventures production of "Play Without Words" will be performed at BAM's Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St., between Ashland and Rockwell places in Fort Greene, from March 15 through April 3; evening performances are at 7:30 p.m., Saturday matinees at 2 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$25-\$125. BAM's Spring Gala is opening night, March 15 at 7 p.m., with tickets ranging from \$300 per couple for the pre-show cocktail reception and performance and \$1500 per couple for the reception, performance and post-show gala dinner. For more information, visit www.bam.org or call (718) 636-4100.

acterizations must rely solely on the choreographed movement of the performers and Davies' joyous jazz score.

Bourne is enthusiastic about working with Davies again.

"Terry and I work together in a completely organic way," he wrote. "If you are working with a composer, he can help out with certain ideas by altering or adding a new moment musically."

And it's what's so great about working with a living composer: collaboration. "Terry did a great job. I didn't imagine that jazz could be so dramatic and varied," Bourne continued. "We both worried at the beginning that it would wash over people in a very pleasant, smoky kind of way, like late night piano—great to listen to, but could it tell a story? Happily, Terry's music is supremely theatrical and every piece sounds different to me. You are very conscious of the music because, without dialogue, it becomes the words or the thoughts."

"Play Without Words" marks the first U.S. appearance of Bourne's newly established company, New Adventures, which he created in 2002 to perform all of his independent theatrical work. Even as this piece earns many raves and new audiences, Bourne is thinking of his company's future endeavors.

"As long as I still feel that I can tell a story through movement, then there are endless possibilities for [us]," he wrote. "I am constantly seeing and imagining new things for the company, and a show like 'Play Without Words' is wonderful, as the process of making it shows me each time how much more is possible for the art form to convey. We are in discussions about making a stage dance version of 'Edward Scissorhands' later this year."

Now that sounds like yet another unlikely concept that Matthew Bourne will turn into a stage original.

Happy campers

Heights Players' 'Stalag 17' mines laughs from World War II POW camp

By Paulanne Simmons
for The Brooklyn Papers

A prisoner of war camp in Nazi Germany may seem an ideal place to set a tight, suspenseful drama. But it's not so obviously the source of in-your-face comedy. Nevertheless playwrights Donald Bevan and Edmund Trzcinski found the setting perfect for both in their 1951 Broadway hit "Stalag 17."

Now at the Heights Players, the show is being given a thoughtful and vigorous treatment by director Ed Healy and his exuberant band of 18 actors.

Bevan and Trzcinski gave their script a bone-chilling, head-nodding, slow-chuckling

dose of realism, thanks to their first-hand knowledge of the subject matter: they were both prisoners of war in the real Stalag 17 during World War II.

Gary Vander-Putten has designed a set that captures all that gritty realism. He put an unfinished, dirty wooden floor over the Heights Players' lovely parquet and furnished the prison camp with bunk beds that make your back ache just from looking at them.

It is in this depressing environment that the men joke, tease, bicker and hope. But

THEATER

The Heights Players' production of "Stalag 17" runs through March 20, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. at The Heights Players theater (60 Willow Place between State and Joralemon streets in Brooklyn Heights). Tickets are \$12, \$10 students and seniors. For reservations, call (718) 237-2752 or visit www.heightsplayers.org.

when a seemingly foolproof escape plan results in the death of two American soldiers, it becomes clear that an informer lives in their midst. The fear and anger this generates among the inmates comes to a head when a new prisoner arrives, the rich and pampered Dunbar (Ryan Fuhrmann), who has fallen afoul of the

denise against Dunbar until his companion and accomplice, a Nazi, have no real evi-



Gritty realism: Constantine Polites, Lucas Mendietta, Danny Cardona (top) and Galway McCullough in the Heights Players production of "Stalag 17."

dence against Dunbar until his companion and accomplice, a Nazi, have no real evi-

See STALAG on page 12

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Parent trap

Brooklyn's Animal Care & Control Center lures adopters with temporarily lowered fees

By AJLA GROZDANIC
For The Brooklyn Papers

"If you've tried and tried and just can't have one of your own, adopt."

A large poster with that slogan takes up most of a mini-green wall in a narrow corridor where uniformed staff and medical personnel are squeezing past a throng of visitors going in and out of sparse but sanitary rooms.

The friendly employees are trying their best, running back and forth on a cold Saturday afternoon, to help potential "parents" pick and choose a "baby" that best suits their individual lifestyle. Age, gender, personality, size and even color are all taken into consideration. But here, parents don't have to wait months or even years to take home the bundle of joy of their choice.

"It's just so amazing when people who did not consider adoption come in, because they are curious," said manager Joyce Clemmons, 47. "We can find a perfect match for them here." All it takes is for people to walk in, Clemmons told GO Brooklyn.

So, what in the world are we talking about? Here's a hint: The hospital-like facility is an East New York shelter, where rooms are filled with row upon row of cages in place of beds — and the "babies" come with fur.

"I don't call them animals here," said Clemmons, manager of the Brooklyn Animal Care & Control Adoption Center. "I call them my babies," she said, adding that she does not have children of her own.

In order to keep the adoption rate high during the cold months, when many people are less likely to leave their homes, Animal Care & Control offers special winter discounts that make adopting a pet "the best deal in all of New York," said Ed Boks, executive director of New York City Animal Care & Control, which runs one shelter in each borough.

"February was cold and the [adoption] numbers were low, so we had to offer specials," said Richard Gentles, 41, director of operations for city Animal Care & Control. "We set prices to encourage people to adopt."

From now through March 31, AC&C has lowered the cost of adoption to what Gentles calls "life-size prices": \$30 for cats and \$75 for dogs. And a great deal it is, when you

bear in mind that the usual adoption fee can be as high as \$150. The special fee includes: spaying/neutering, vaccination and one free veterinary visit. A microchip that can help track lost or stolen pets can be purchased and implanted in your adopted pet at AC&C's shelters for an additional \$20.

Most people who came to the Brooklyn AC&C shelter on a recent Saturday were not aware of the deal they were getting.

"Last year it was \$145 for a dog and \$135 for a cat," said Najiyah Ali, 26, assistant office manager at the shelter in East New York. "If people knew that, they would appreciate [our low prices] even more."

They might not know of the winter special, but many adopting families are familiar with AC&C's Web site, www.nyacc.org, where the non-profit organization posts photo-

graphs of many of the adoptable animals.

Edward Ling, 5, of Bensonhurst, came with his aunt and father, Saeng and Fu Ling, to adopt a 5-month-old German shepherd mix, whose picture he saw online. The Lings beat the Lerners, who rushed to East New York from Brighton Beach for the same puppy.

"We saw him online and we came out here," said Gloria Lerner, pointing toward the golden brown puppy Ed-



New friends: Theresa and Donald Honey (at left) took home a black Labrador retriever mix while Edward Ling chose a German shepherd mix puppy.



Love for sale: At Brooklyn Animal Care and Control's "Winter Petstravaganza," Christine Fields, of Bedford-Stuyvesant, adopted a 2-year-old silky terrier.

ward was holding by the leash. "But they snatched him." Thanks to the wide selection of animals at the shelter, Lerner, who came with her 16-year-old daughter, wasn't disappointed for too long. Before she knew it, she fell in love with a 7-month-old German shepherd mix and she could not wait to take him home.

"I think that it's better to rescue a dog than buy one from the store," said Robert Maciaszek, 14, of Greenpoint. Robert and his mother, Agatha, decided on a 3-year-old cocker spaniel. "I think I'll name him Caesar," Robert said.

Adoption rate lags

Boks came to New York in January 2004 from Arizona's Maricopa County Animal Care & Control, known as the country's pioneer in "no-kill" shelters, where he also served as executive director. One of the reasons New York turned to him to improve the city's animal care, he said, was because he had a successful experience with the implementation of the "no-kill" policy in Arizona's shelters.

"New York had a reputation as the worst city in the country in the way it treated [stray] animals," said Boks. AC&C's statistics show that within the past year in New York there has been a 101 percent increase in adoptions and a 17 percent decrease in euthanasia.

"Fewer animals died in New York in 2004 than in any other year in New York history," Boks said.

Boks said AC&C is the largest pet rescue organization in New York, rescuing more than 42,000 lost and homeless animals and close to 3,000 farm, wild and exotic animals each year. With the recent increase, the an-

nual number of adoptions amounts to 18,000.

Despite all the improvements, the adoption rate still lags behind the number of lost and homeless animals that enter shelters daily. Although in decline and used as a last resort, the humane killing of animals is sometimes the only option.

"We get between 50 and 100 animals a day," said Ali, sitting in a small, shared office at the Brooklyn AC&C shelter, whose 430 cages are filled to capacity.

"We have to take the animals," Ali said. The shelter employees try to discourage owners from giving up their pets, she said, explaining what might happen to them. But in the end, the shelter is required to take in all the animals that pass through its doors.

All stray animals are automatically kept in the shelter for 72 hours, after which the adoptable ones remain in the shelter, where on a good day there are between 10 and 20 adoptions.

"Sometimes we do have to do euthanasia," said Ali, who has worked at the Brooklyn shelter since 2000. Animals whose behavior is considered dangerous to the public and those who are sick are generally kill candidates, but sometimes space limitations are the reason for putting animals to sleep.

The AC&C's goal for 2005 is to reduce pet euthanasia by another 15 percent. The key to reaching that goal, said Boks, is to spread the word and encourage more individuals to adopt. In addition to giving their animal shelters exposure through media outlets, AC&C also takes a more direct approach by bringing the animals to the people.

"We take the animals into the community," he said. "We take them into the parks, churches, synagogues, anywhere we can get a venue."

Clemmons, who has worked at the Brooklyn shelter since it first opened, on Feb. 1, 1995, said she has noticed many positive changes within the past few years, including the recent renovation of the shelter and the increase in adoption rates.

Loneliness cure

People who decide to adopt an animal do so for different reasons. While the Lings, Lerners and Maciaszek fulfilled their children's wishes for a pet, others simply don't want to be lonely.

"I'm retired now, and I want company," said Ann Thompson, 62, of Brownsville, who adopted a fluffy little Pomeranian dog from the Brooklyn shelter.

Theresa and Donald Honey, of Bensonhurst, came to adopt because their dog Rocco had died three weeks earlier. They chose a year-old female black Labrador retriever mix.

Theresa Honey, 68, said that she had to have a pet because she misses animals and wants companionship.

"I'm working and [my wife] is home alone," said Donald Honey, 72. That Saturday, the Brooklyn Animal Care & Control center had a good day. The total of 25 adoptions — 15 cats and 10 dogs — surpassed its daily average.

Boks attributes the Brooklyn shelter's success to the kindness of its employees. But Clemmons thinks it's more than that. "People and animals belong together," she said.

STALAG...

Continued from page 11

loose-tongued soldier-actor named Reed (Jeff Breitman,

who is most notable for his excellent imitations of all the famous actors of the day) spills the beans within earshot of the informer.

The characterization of Nazis as sadistic incompetents

is now cliché, but one suspects Bevan and Trzcinski may have been influential in the formulation of that image. At any rate, Matthew Woods as Corporal Schultz struts and frowns, wheelies and whines

in a perfect rendition of the well-known character type. Similarly Vincent Panos does hilarious justice to the role of the nasal mailman Marko — the village idiot.

"Stalag 17" succeeds be-

cause it so artfully erases the line between comedy and drama.

Although Bevan and Trzcinski were very adept at providing the right bits of information at the right time while maintaining the rollicking hu-

mor, the play still stands or falls on the skill of the actors.

Michael Bevan, who plays at the Heights Players as David Kolowitz in "Enter Laughing" is utterly believable and funny as Harry Shapiro, the obnoxious, wisecracking Jew, who probably — although it is never openly stated — hails from Brooklyn. (Why this ubiquitous stereotype is always named Shapiro is anyone's guess.)

The snickering, sarcastic Sefton is viscerally brought to life by Galway McCullough. The tortured Honey never says a word, but Daniel Cardona performs wonders with his blank stare and tuneless playing of a whistle-like instrument.

In 1953, the brilliant Billy Wilder adapted the stage play into a motion picture starring the Academy Award-winning William Holden as Sefton, a role some say made him Bragge's successor to the American cynic role. Twelve years later, the television comedy series "Hogan's Heroes" took up the same theme. Only in that version the prisoners are in complete control and the camp has been renamed Stalag 13. The similarity, however, was close enough for Bevan and Trzcinski to sue.

Although it's easy to see what incited the playwrights' ire — the silly sitcom had as much to do with "Stalag 17" as a rhinestone has to do with a diamond — the several variations on Bevan and Trzcinski's work do prove there's something enduring about the theme of imperfect men in an imperfect world struggling to survive and smile through it all. In the Heights Players' production, the theme triumphs.

CELEBRATING FIFTY YEARS 2005 SEASON

BROOKLYN CENTER
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AT BROOKLYN COLLEGE

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Sponsored by CorEdison
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Guess How Much I Love You
Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia
Sunday • March 13, 2005 • 2pm
Sponsored by Puma-GunChase (Luh-Flu)
Tickets: \$15, \$8

Saveto Street Beat
Saturday • March 19, 2005 • 8pm
Supported by Metro-Globe Foundation & Parkside Foundation
Tickets: \$30, \$20

Royal Shakespeare Company
The Shakespeare Review
Sunday • March 20, 2005 • 2pm
Sponsored by EMERITMAN
Tickets: \$40, \$25

Caribbean Calaloo
with Shavonne Winchoke, Taboo Combo, WCK and Gillo
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Supported by WILLIAMS FOUNDATION
Tickets: \$40, \$35, \$15

Call 718.951.4500
or visit the Box Office, located at Campus Road and Hill Place,
one block from the junction of Nottowood and Flatbush Avenues in Brooklyn.
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For groups of 15 or more, call 718.951.4800 x26

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BROOKLYN Nightlife

The Archives
(New York Museum at the Brooklyn Bridge)
202 Adams St. at Johnson Street
Downtown Brooklyn (718) 264-7000
March 18: "Boogie-Up With Bartha Hope,"
6:30 p.m. FREE.

The Backroom
(Inside Freddy's Bar) 485 Dean St. at Sixth
Avenue in Prospect Heights (718) 622-7035.
March 12: Delia Bar 10 p.m., 8:30 p.m.,
FREE; March 13: The Backroom 10 p.m.,
FREE; March 14: The Ernest Anderson 10 p.m.,
FREE; March 15: Ben Cohen 10 p.m., FREE;
March 16: Karaoke, 9:30 p.m., FREE; March 17:
St. Pat's Day celebration with live music at
night long 8 p.m., FREE; March 18: The Bitter
Polo, 9:30 p.m., My Pocket Zoo, 10:30 p.m.,
LOASNY, 11:30 p.m., FREE.

BAM Cafe
30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort
Greene (718) 624-4100, www.bam.org
March 12: Kuba, 9 p.m., \$10 food/drink mini-
mum; March 14: Urban West NYC 7th Annual
Teen Poetry Slam, 6 p.m., \$7 adults, \$5 teens;
March 18: "Ruth Margalit: Welcoming," 9 p.m.,
\$10 food/drink minimum.

Barbes
375 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope,
(718) 965-9177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com
Tuesdays: Jenny Scherman, 7 p.m., FREE; Steve
Soul Party, 7 p.m., \$5; Wednesdays: "Night of
the Reelized Ladies," 9 p.m., \$5; Sundays: Ste-
phanie Whelan, 9 p.m., FREE; March 12: Linda
Moon, 7 p.m., River Alexander & His Mad Jazz
Hornet, 9 p.m., The Vixens, 10 p.m., FREE; March
13: Dada Rhythms & the Reelized Ladies, 9 p.m.,
FREE; March 14: Chu Ring Zoro's open workshop,
9:30 p.m., FREE; March 16: T.O.B. Trio, 8 p.m.,
\$8; Ralph Alesi, 10 p.m., \$8; March 17: Bil Car-
son, 9 p.m., The Bodice Remedy, 10 p.m., FREE;
March 18: The 4th St. Nixies, 8 p.m., Dita
Dionisio, 10 p.m., FREE.

Bembe
81 S. Sixth St. at Berry Street in Williams-
burg (718) 387-5389, www.bembes.us
Saturdays: DJs and live late percussion fusion,
9 p.m., FREE; Sundays: "Universal Rhythms" with
DJs Amanda and Nick, 9 p.m., FREE; Mondays:
"Cold Hard" with DJ DigiGlo, 9:30 p.m., FREE;
Tuesdays: "Tight" with DJ Queen Majesty, 9
p.m., FREE; Wednesdays: "Consciousness" with
DJ Stefan Antonicich, 9 p.m., FREE; Thursdays:
"Toque" with DJ Buzsaki, 9 p.m., FREE; Fridays:
"Call to Drum" - world beats with DJ Miller
Cox, 7 p.m., FREE.

Black Betty
346 Metropolitan Ave. at Havemeyer Street
in Williamsburg (718) 599-0242, www.black-
betty.net
Saturdays: DJ Luf Shalimar, 11 p.m., FREE; Sun-
days: Brazilian Beat with DJ Steve Marquand and
DJ Greg Cox, 10 p.m., FREE; Tuesdays: Hot
Rocks, 10 p.m., FREE; Wednesdays: Electric
Gypsy, a Balkan dance party, with DJ Shonaz
and Sami Kaskas, 9 p.m., FREE; Thursdays:
The Greenhouse with DJ Monique and DJ Emilee,
11 p.m., FREE; Fridays: DJ Mikko, 11 p.m., FREE.

**Brooklyn
Conservatory of Music**
(At PS 29 425 Henry St. at Baltic Street in
Williamsburg)

Cobble Hill (718) 622-3300, www.brooklyn-
conservatory.com
March 12: Lucy Callier, 8 p.m., \$10, \$5 stu-
dents/donations; March 18: New music col-
lective, 7 p.m., \$5.

Cabaret Ovation
860 Atlantic Ave. at Vanderbilt Avenue in
Clinton Hill (718) 436-1400, www.cabaret-
ovation.com
Wednesdays: Karaoke with host Carol
Williams, 6 p.m., FREE.

Chocolate Monkey
329 Flatbush Ave. at Seventh Avenue in Park
Slope (718) 813-1073
Saturdays: Expresso a.k.a. Open Mic Poetry sal-
ent showtimes, 8 p.m., \$7; Sensy Lounge Party with
DJ Oskar Fuller spinning house, classics and new
grooves, 11 p.m., FREE; Sundays: "Krazy Nanny
Sundays" and Karaoke with Lisa Love, 6 p.m.,
FREE; Tuesdays: Single party, 5 p.m., FREE;
Wednesdays: "No Soul," 7 p.m., FREE; Thurs-
days: Sensy Sunday After Work Party hosted
by Sandy and Nicole, 6 p.m., Karaoke hosted by
Lisa Love and Monique, 10 p.m., FREE; Fridays:
"Reggae After Work" with DJ, 5 p.m., FREE;
Live music and DJ, 9 p.m., \$5.

**Crossroads
Saloon**
2079 Coney Island Ave. at Kings Highway in
Sheepshead Bay (718) 339-9393
Fridays and Saturdays: Karaoke, 9 p.m., FREE.

Europa Night Club
98 Meserole Ave. at Manhattan Avenue in
Greenpoint (718) 363-5722, www.europa-
club.com
Saturdays: "Saturday VIP" 9 p.m., FREE before
10 p.m., \$15 after 10 p.m.; Fridays: Pro-
gressive/Dance party, 10 p.m., FREE before
10:30 p.m., \$15 after 10:30 p.m.; March 12:
Mark's Jazz Vision Band, 7:30 p.m., \$10 FREE
before 8 p.m. with student identifications.

Five Spot
459 Myrtle Ave. at Washington Avenue in
Clinton Hill (718) 852-0022, www.fivespot-
sinfonietta.com
Saturdays: DJ Aki, 6 p.m., FREE, Super Lowkey
Bringing weekly live hip-hop and future jazz
with DJ Yess, 10 p.m., \$5; Tuesdays: Hot Dams
with DJ Tommy Taki, 9 p.m., \$10.

Frank's Lounge
660 Fulton St. at South Street in Fort
Greene (718) 625-9339, www.frankscoktail-
lounge.com
Saturdays: Sinful Saturdays with DJs Tyrone and
Infirno, 9 p.m., \$5; Tuesdays: Tuesday Night Live,
9 p.m., 2-drink minimum; Wednesdays: Karaoke
with Davey B, 9 p.m., FREE; Tuesdays: Lomnie
Youngblood & The Street Brothers, 6 p.m., FREE;
Fridays: Fun Dance Party, 10 p.m., \$5.

free103point9
97 S. Sixth St. at Bedford Avenue, 2nd floor,
in Williamsburg (718) 599-0955, www.free103point9.org
March 12: free103point9 8th Anniversary Con-
cert with Sudden Infant, Sawako, Ian Epps, and
many more, 8 p.m., \$5.

Galapagos
70 N. Sixth St. at Myrtle Avenue in Williams-
burg (718) 592-5188, www.galapagos-art-
space.com
Sundays: Sid and Buddy Karaoke, 10 p.m.,
FREE; Mondays: Baroque a.k.a. "Total
Twisting Fun," 10 p.m., FREE; Tuesdays: New

Rock Weekly, 8 p.m., \$6; Fridays: VJ/DJ Friday
Nights, 10 p.m., FREE; March 12: AfterHours
Party for "Act in Williamsburg," 11 p.m., FREE;
March 14: SMUT presents "Stories by Poth
Front," 8 p.m., Holograms with Miss Sutton,
10 p.m., FREE; March 15: Bar Due presents
"Between The Ideas of March," 7:30 p.m., \$5,
Tishland, Arlene, LaFosse, Sarge, 10 p.m.,
FREE; March 16: Shadow Boys, Summer
Sams, 8 p.m., \$5; March 18: Bar Due presents
"Between The Ideas of March," 7:30 p.m., \$5,
Tishland, Arlene, LaFosse, Sarge, 10 p.m.,
FREE; March 17: Boog City's Classic Albums
live presents "St. Francis Day Party," 7 p.m.,
\$10, Psychiatric Society, 10 p.m., \$7;
March 18: MCRGROVE Orchestra, 7 p.m., \$7.

Good Coffeehouse Music
(Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture) 53
Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park
Slope (718) 768-2972, www.goodcoffee-
house.com
March 18: Jazzy Kaye and friends, 8 p.m., \$10
adults, \$6 children.

The Hook
10 Commerce St. at Columbia Street in Red
Hook (718) 797-3007, www.thehook-
music.com
March 12: The Punks, 9 p.m., The Challenged,
10 p.m., The Pink Mist, 11 p.m., The Ladies, mid-
night, STD; March 18: The No Fun Fest 2005, 7
p.m., \$10.

Hope and Anchor
347 West 1st St. at Holcomb Street in Red
Hook (718) 797-3007, www.thehook-
music.com
March 12: The Punks, 9 p.m., The Challenged,
10 p.m., The Pink Mist, 11 p.m., The Ladies, mid-
night, STD; March 18: The No Fun Fest 2005, 7
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music.com
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10 p.m., The Pink Mist, 11 p.m., The Ladies, mid-
night, STD; March 18: The No Fun Fest 2005, 7
p.m., \$10.

io Restaurant
119 Kent Ave. at North Seventh Street in
Williamsburg (718) 388-3320, www.iorestau-
rantdounge.com
Saturdays: DJ spins salsa and house, 10 p.m.,
FREE; \$5 after 11 p.m.; Fridays: DJ spins salsa
and house, 10 p.m., FREE.

Jazz 966
560 Fulton St. at Cambridge Place in Clinton
Hill (718) 855-1042
March 18: A "Pajama Birthday Party" with
Sweet Georgia Brown & Her Georgia Express, 8
p.m., FREE; \$5 after 8 p.m., \$10 after midnight.

The Jazz Spot
179 Marcy Gantry Blvd. at Kosciuszko
Street in Bedford-Stuyvesant (718) 433-7825,
www.thejazzspot.com
Mondays: Jam session, 8 p.m., \$5; March 12:
Audrey Wright and Jazz Squall, 9 p.m., \$10;
March 18: Roberto Pastor Nio, 9 p.m., \$10.

Kili Bar-Cafe
81 Hoyt St. at State Street in Boerum Hill,
(718) 855-5574
Tuesdays: Open acoustics, 10 p.m., FREE;
Fridays: DJ Chucky plays rock, hip-hop and
funk, 10:30 p.m., FREE.

Laila Lounge
113 N. Seventh St. at Wythe Avenue in
Williamsburg (718) 486-7791, www.lailalounge.com
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays:
Live DJs, 9 p.m., FREE; Mondays: Karaoke Mel-
lons with the Com-Fed Sisters, 10 p.m., FREE;
Tuesdays: Whiskey Brawl with Rod Brown,
Alexander Louie, and guests, 9:30 p.m., FREE;
Wednesdays: Jazzy Music Showcase, 8 p.m.,
FREE.

**Le Dakar
Restaurant**
285 Grand Ave. at Lafayette Avenue in Clin-
ton Hill (718) 389-8902, www.le-dakar.net
Tuesdays: Spoken word, 9 p.m., FREE; March
14: "Jazz Night" with Lynne Slaughter and
Bartha Hope, 7 p.m., FREE with 2-drink mini-
mum.

Les Babouches
70 N. Sixth St. at Myrtle Avenue in Williams-
burg (718) 592-5188, www.galapagos-art-
space.com
Sundays: Sid and Buddy Karaoke, 10 p.m.,
FREE; Mondays: Baroque a.k.a. "Total
Twisting Fun," 10 p.m., FREE; Tuesdays: New



Kaku will perform at BAM Cafe on March 12.

Fridays and Saturdays: Baby dancer
Shantana, 9 p.m., FREE.

**Liberty Heights
Tap Room**
34 New York St. at Dwight Street in Red
Hook (718) 248-8000
Fridays and Saturdays: Live music, 10 p.m.,
FREE; March 18: Undersea explosion, The Brooklyn
Quorum Experiment, Rantation,
Benjamin, 9 p.m., FREE.

Live Lounge
667 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort
Greene (718) 855-1042
March 18: Perpetual Grooves Entertainment
NYC presents "Old School Meets the New
School" with DJ Jazzy Jay and DJ Jive June, 5
p.m., FREE; \$5 after 8 p.m., \$10 after midnight.

The Lucky Cat
245 Grand St. at Red Hook Street in Williams-
burg (718) 782-8437, www.theluckycat.com
Tuesdays: Joe McCann's Piano Party and
karaoke, 10 p.m., FREE; Wednesdays: Hosted
by DJ Jeremy, 10 p.m., FREE; Fridays: "Futuristic
Sessions" with DJ Sport Casual, 10 p.m., FREE;
March 12: All Fall Down, 9 p.m., Raygan Gals,
11 p.m., Saturday Night Daze, midnight, FREE;
March 16: Five of Spades, 7:30 p.m., FREE;
March 17: DJs Doran Greg and Kayara spin
world beats, deep house and techno, 10 p.m.,
FREE.

The LuLu Lounge
113 N. Seventh St. at Wythe Avenue in
Williamsburg (718) 486-7791, www.luilounge.com
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays:
Live DJs, 9 p.m., FREE; Mondays: Karaoke Mel-
lons with the Com-Fed Sisters, 10 p.m., FREE;
Tuesdays: Whiskey Brawl with Rod Brown,
Alexander Louie, and guests, 9:30 p.m., FREE;
Wednesdays: Jazzy Music Showcase, 8 p.m.,
FREE.

Magnetic Field
97 Atlantic Ave. at Henry Street in Brooklyn
Heights (718) 834-0006, www.magnetic-
brooklyn.com
Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays: Karaoke, 8
p.m., FREE.
March 12: Party celebrating release of sound-
track for the Brooklyn Play "Mole" fea-
turing The Bill Lee Quartet, 9:30 p.m., 11 p.m., \$20
donations; March 13: CD release party for
Chapel Allen Gantz' "Remember Their Inno-
cence," 9:30 p.m., 11 p.m., \$20 includes copy of
the CD, food & wine.

Peggy O'Neill's
(Two locations)
8123 Fifth Ave. at 81st Street in Bay Ridge,
(718) 748-1402, www.peggyonnells.com
Tuesdays: Karaoke with Rod, 10 p.m., FREE;
Thursdays: Karaoke with DJ Rob, 10 p.m., FREE;
March 17: St. Patrick's Day Party, 1 p.m., FREE;
1904 Surf Ave. at Koyan Park in Coney
Island (718) 440-3200,
www.peggyonnells.com
Fridays and Saturdays: Live music, 10 p.m., STD;
Sundays: Karaoke with Cicco, Time TBD, FREE.

**Pete's Candy
Store**
709 Avenue S. at Richardson Street in
Williamsburg (718) 302-3770, www.petescan-
dy-store.com
Sundays: Open mic, 5 p.m.-8 p.m., FREE; Marty
Chick and the Gypsies, 10 p.m., FREE; March
12: The Judas Griffins, 9 p.m., The Bart of
Snow, 10 p.m., FREE; March 13: Ethan Upton,
8:30 p.m., FREE; March 14: Spooling Bear, 7:30
p.m., (Clocks) 9:30 p.m., Salsito, 10:30 p.m., FREE;
March 15: Brugs, 7 p.m., Brooklyn Jays, 9 p.m.,
Alice Lee, 10 p.m., Mayaballs, 11 p.m., FREE;
March 16: Chazzy QP, 7:30 p.m., Astragals, 10
p.m., FREE; March 17: Will Scott, 8:30 p.m., Bryan
Miles, 9:15 p.m., Mr. Shanghai String Band, 10:15
p.m., FREE; March 18: Cat Martini, 9 p.m., Julia
Darling, 10 p.m., Rane Lopez, 11 p.m., FREE.

**Reign Bar &
Lounge**
40 Westchester Ave. at Park Avenue in
Clinton Hill (718) 643-7286, www.reign-
bar.com
March 17: "The Ladies Lounge" music series in
honor of Women's History Month featuring
Katie Ball performing Betty Carter, 7 p.m., \$15
general admission, \$10 on guest list (ladies
free), ladies 8 p.m.

**Samba Restaurant
& Nightclub**
9601 Third Ave. at 96th Street in Bay Ridge,
(718) 429-6422
Saturdays: "Havana Nights" featuring Nino
Tom spinning Latin rhythms, salsa, club classics
and disco, 10 p.m., ladies FREE, men \$10 (ladies
24 to enter, men 25 to enter); Fridays: Music by
KTU's La Rita and Guadalupe, 10 p.m., STD (\$1
to enter).

Sistas' Place
454 Norstrand Ave. at Jefferson Avenue in
Bedford-Stuyvesant (718) 988-7766, www.sistas-
taplounge.com
March 12: Jajaja Davis, 9 p.m., 10:30 p.m., \$20 in
advance, \$25 day of the show.

Solomon's Porch
307 Stuyvesant Ave. at Halsey Street in
Bedford-Stuyvesant (718) 979-6021
Saturdays and Wednesdays: Live jazz, 8 p.m., \$7
suggested donation; Sundays: Open mic, 6
p.m., FREE.

Southpaw
125 Fifth Ave. at St. John's Place in Park
Slope (718) 232-0226, www.southpaw.com
March 12: The Figgs, True Love, 8 p.m., \$10;
March 13: The Rally Association, Brian Bone,
and more, 7:30 p.m., \$8; March 15: Wednesday,
7 p.m., FREE; March 16: Strand and Delver com-
edy night with host Andrew Toner, 7 p.m., FREE;
March 17: The St. Paddy Social with Lord of
Brooklyn, Bessie-Nation, Betsy, 8:30 p.m., \$12
in advance, \$15 day of the show; March 18:
"The FBI Foundation Show" hosted by Joe Vito
and featuring Spike the Khamelion,
Dyngelhead, Yousaid, 3rd Party, Pison Papi,
Nina Sautovic, DJ Koffi O, 8 p.m., \$12 in advance,
\$15 day of the show.

Stain
764 Grand St. at Humboldt Street in Williams-
burg (718) 387-7840, www.stainbar.com
Saturdays: "Play Dirty," 5 p.m., FREE; Thursdays:
Mark Grouden, 10 p.m., FREE; March 12: David
Sneadlin, 10 p.m., FREE; March 18: Acquis, 8
p.m., FREE; March 18: Lydia Miller, 7 p.m., FREE.

Superfino
126 First St. at Pearl Street in DUMBO (718)
243-5005
Sundays: "Bluegrass Brunch" with live perform-
ers, 11:30 a.m. (donation suggested; brunch not
included).

Trash Bar
250 Grand St. at Chign Avenue in Williams-
burg (718) 599-1000, www.trashbar.com
March 12: The Stage, 9 p.m., Tough and Lovely,
10 p.m., Taperine Brothers, 11 p.m., Andy G
and the Roller Kings, midnight, STD; March
13: Grottyo Fash, 9 p.m., The Maskies, 9 p.m.,
Time of O'clock, 10 p.m., Volunteers, 11 p.m.,
Good Girl, midnight, STD; March 14: Kick-
start, 10 p.m., The Forciss, 11 p.m., The Voox,
midnight, DJ Hue, 1 a.m., STD; March 15:
Bongo Jones, 10 p.m., Mc Impatient, 11 p.m., \$6;
March 16: Swinger, 9 p.m., Alads, 10 p.m., Kay,
11 p.m., Of the Between, midnight, \$7; March
17: Trash Bar's 1-Year Anniversary Party with
punk/metal acoustic jam, 9 p.m., Pilot to Gunner,
10 p.m., Red Stains, 11 p.m., Undersea Explosion,
The Eyes, 1 a.m., \$8; March 18: Reptiles, 9
p.m., Drayton Sawyer Gang, 10 p.m., Modern Day
Lohan Barbarians, 11 p.m., Bunny Buns 88,
midnight, STD.

Two Boots
514 Second St. at Seventh Avenue in Park
Slope (718) 499-3253, www.two-boots.com
Sundays: Open mic, 5 p.m., \$10.

200 Fifth
450 Fifth Ave. at Second Street in Park Slope,
(718) 638-2925
Sundays: DJ Blazer spinning reggae, hip-hop,
10 p.m., ladies \$5, men \$10; Fridays: Friday
Night Salads with a live salsa band and DJ Blazer
Cox and Big Will spinning salsa, reggae, hip-
hop, 10 p.m., ladies \$5, men \$10.

Vox Pop
1427 Court Ave. at Bedford Street in Flatbush,
(718) 440-2084, www.voxpop.net
Sundays: Open mic, 7 p.m., FREE; March 12:
Lisa Roma and friends, 8 p.m., FREE.

**Waterfront Ale
House**
155 Adams St. at Clinton Street in
Brooklyn Heights (718) 522-3294,
www.waterfrontalehouse.com
March 12: The Joe Barba Elusive Experience, 11
p.m., FREE.

**Williamsburg
Music Center**
167 Bedford Ave. at Court Fifth Street in
Williamsburg (718) 384-1654
Saturdays: Open mic, 10 p.m., \$5; Fridays: Live
vocals, 10 p.m., \$5.

Zebulon
228 Wythe Ave. at Metropolitan Avenue in
Williamsburg (718) 718-8929, www.zebulon-
offcenter.com
March 12: Jamming at Cayo Basso, 10 p.m.,
FREE; March 13: Baya Kouette El Las
Yogurkas, 10 p.m., FREE; March 15: Tricycle
with Kenny Wellman & Jonathan Heller, 10
p.m., FREE; March 16: Jim Hobbs & The Fully
Calibrated Orchestra, 10 p.m., FREE; March 17:
Satan Matrioski, 10 p.m., FREE; March 18: Inno
and Joe Africa, 10 p.m., FREE.

—compiled by Chiara V. Cowan

Grand Opening!

Tuesday, March 15th

Adam & Eve

Laser Hair Removal

For men and women

The latest technology in
laser hair removal is here in
Park Slope at
**Adam & Eve
Laser Hair Removal**

*Special Grand-
Opening Packages*

Affordable Prices!

259 4th Avenue (bet. Carroll & Garfield)

(718) 622-2300

Open: Sunday - Thursday, 11am - 7pm • Friday 11am - 3pm

Visit Our Website: www.AdamAndEveLaserHairRemoval.com

EASTERN ATHLETIC

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS 43 CLARK STREET 718 625-0500

METROTECH 333 ADAMS STREET 718 330-0007

PROSPECT PARK 17 EASTERN PARKWAY 718 789-4600

TRIBECA 80 LEONARD STREET 212 966-5432

BLUE POINT DIX HILLS MELVILLE

THIS OFFER IS AVAILABLE ONLY ON THE FIRST VISIT TO THE CLUB AND IS NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. NOT ALL FACILITIES AT ALL LOCATIONS.

Where

Compiled by
Susan
Rosenthal

Sat, March 12

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BLOOMING BROOKLYN: Brooklyn Botanic Garden hosts its 24th annual Horticulture Extravaganza, featuring displays, workshops and speakers. 10 am to 4 p.m. 1000 Washington Ave. (718) 623-7222. Free.

TAKE A WALK: Guided urban walk through Jamaica Bay, Sheepshead Bay and Flatbush. 10 a.m. Meet at Sheepshead Bay Road station. O train, street level. (212) 228-3126. Free.

ICE SKATING: The Williams Park ice skating rink is open. Skates \$5, 55 to 10 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Enter Prospect Park at Parkside and Ocean avenues. (718) 267-5252.

WALKING TOUR: Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment takes a tour of Cobble Hill. Learn about this landmarked neighborhood and its history, development and revitalization. \$15. 9 members, 58 students and seniors. 11 am to 1 p.m. Meet at southwest corner of Atlantic Avenue and Court Street. (718) 788-6501.

PERFORMANCE

THEATER: The Brooklyn College Theater Department, New Workshop Theater, presents "A Lovely Sunday for Mr. B." by Tennessee Williams. \$5. 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Greenwich Street. 58 Brooklyn College, one block from the intersection of Flatbush and Nostrand avenues. (718) 951-4600.

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Brooklyn camp directory

Huggs Day School Summer Program

763 President St. Park Slope
(718) 230-5255
Director: Randie Bader and Gary Siegel
Ages: 2.5 - 5 years
June 21 - Aug. 2
Full day (9 am - 4 pm)
Half days (9 am - noon or 1 pm - 4 pm)
Activities: private backyard with water play equipment, trips, art, music, indoor gym.

Beth Elohim Summer Day Camp

274 Garfield Place, Park Slope
(718) 768-3814, ext. 210
www.congregationbethelohim.org
Director: Bobbie Finkelstein
• Preschool Division
Ages: 2 to 5-12
June 27 - Aug. 19
Full Day (9 am - 3 pm) and Half Day (9 am - 12:30 pm)
Activities: swimming, weekly trip for 4- and 5-year-olds

Elementary Division

Ages entering 1st - 4th grades
July 5 - Aug. 19
Full day (9 am - 5 pm) available
Activities: swimming (instructional and recreational), arts and crafts, music, nature, sports, gymnastics, trips 2 days per week
• Movin' On Travel Camp
Ages: entering 5th - 9th grades
July 5 - Aug. 19
Full day (9 am - 5 pm)
Activities: Daily trips, swimming, two overnights
OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, March 13

Park Slope Day Camp

Locations in Windsor Terrace and Park Slope
(718) 768-4426
www.parkslopedaycamp.com
e-mail: office@parkslopedaycamp.com

Director: Ronny Schindler
Ages: entering K - 8th grades
July 5 - Sept. 8
Full day (9 am - 5 pm), early dismissal optional for young kids; Extended hours (until 6:30 pm) available
Transportation: free morning shuttle from all Brownstone Brooklyn neighborhoods and Bay Ridge

Activities: outdoor camp with sports, trips, gymnastics, drama, nature, olympics, sports academy, travel camp (featuring overnight trips)
OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, March 19

YMCA camps

Park Slope & Bensonhurst
(718) 768-7100, ext. 153
email: drizzolo@ymcanyc.org
Ages: 5 - 15 years
Full day (8 am - 4 pm)
Extended hours (4 pm - 6 pm) available

Activities: visiting Prospect Park's many places of interest, trips to theater performance, swimming.
Park Slope-PS 321
July 5 - Aug. 26
Also ask about the progressive swim camp (instructional swim 4 days per week)
Bensonhurst-PS 200 & 205
July 5 - Aug. 12
Ages 13-17
Also ask about the Teen Leadership Camp, geared towards community service and cool trips like Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum, BBQs, Sailing and more.

Kim's Kids Summer Camp

Park Slope location
(718) 768-6419
Director: Dan Moineister
Ages: 5-12 to 11-12 years
Activities: swimming in lakes, pools and beaches, hikes, trips to Sesame Place, amusement parks, museums.

Better Brooklyn Community Center

408 Jay St., 5th floor
(718) 624-1992
Ages: 2-15
July 5 - Aug. 26
Fees: \$1000 for full summer or \$250 for 2-week session
Full day: 8 am to 6:30 pm
Activities include: dance, music, arts & crafts, lunch & snacks, swimming in indoor pool, bowling, weekly trips, gymnastics, team sports, rock climbing, horseback riding, mathematics, writing, reading, library visits.

Jewish Sports Academy

215 Pacific Street
(718) 596-4840, ext. 15
Director: Simcha Weinstein
jewishsportsacademy@aol.com
Ages: 5 to 9 years
June 27 - Aug. 12
Full day: 9 am - 3 pm
Extended hours: 8 am - 6 pm
Fees: \$425 per 2-week session
Activities: supervised, instructional swim, soccer and tennis, arts & crafts, boating, computers, dramatics, farm animal care, pony riding, karate, ballet, multimedia, trips, gymnastics, hiking, hockey, Jewish culture, music & dance, physical fitness, ping pong, swimming, tennis. Campers will be enjoying the St. Francis College gym and Olympic-sized swimming pool.

L.E.S. Summer Camp

440 Orvington Ave., Bay Ridge
(718) 748-3624
Director: Victoria Hofmo
Ages: 4-14
June 20 - Aug. 12
Full day: 8 am - 4 pm
Extended day until 6:30 pm (pre-school ages 8 am - noon)
Activities: fencing, tennis, swimming, art, cooking, environmental science projects, three trips per week, sports.

Garden Summer Program

33-16 79th Street, Jackson Heights
(718) 335-6363
Director: Mary Maisano
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Cardinal pushes parochial school tax credit

Likes Ridge pol's new tuition plan

By Matt Smith
Associated Press

A tax credit for families who send their kids to parochial schools would not only combat the rising costs of private education, but also relieve the burden on the public-school system caused by overcrowding, the archbishop of New York said Tuesday.

Providing children a private education is "the right of all parents, not just parents who are wealthy," said Cardinal Edward Egan, who came to the state Capitol on Tuesday to lobby for the education tax credit.

Egan's crusade comes while 42 Catholic schools throughout the state are to shut down at the end of the school year as dioceses struggle with rising expenses and declining enrollment. Seventeen of those are in Brooklyn, including school in Bensonhurst, Carroll Gardens and Park Slope.

Twenty-seven schools will close citywide, as well as five in Westchester and Rockland counties. Seven Catholic

schools will close in the Rochester area, as well as one each in Buffalo, Albany and on Long Island, said James Cultrara, the New York Catholic Conference director for education.

The conference is lobbying specifically for passage of a bill sponsored by Republican state Sen. Martin Golden of Bay Ridge. It would provide tax credits — on a sliding scale to families making below \$100,000 — for home schooling, tuition, fees and other education expenses. Golden's district includes Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights and Bensonhurst.

The credits would cost the state an estimated \$460 million a year, according to Golden's office. Egan predicted the tax credit will be opposed most adamantly by the teachers' unions, which he accused of obstructing any reforms involving the issue of parental choice.

Alan Lubin, executive vice president of the New York State United Teachers union, said Egan's call for a tax credit



Museum Barge returns

Barge owner David Sharps (center) makes a toast upon return of the Lehigh Valley Barge, better known as the Waterfront Museum Barge, to Pier 44 off Conover Street in Red Hook on March 7. The tug Sea Lion brought the barge from its temporary home on a pier off nearby Columbia Street. Joining Sharps for the toast are (from left) Matt LaDuca, Gary Baum and Scott Murchison.

it comes at the "wrong time."

The state, Lubin noted, is already struggling to meet a court order to phase in \$5.6 billion more in annual state aid to fix New York City schools, as well as \$9.2 billion more over five years for capital improvements.

Lubin said the Catholic Conference should be more concerned with finding a way to combat charter schools, which have consistently chipped away at Catholic school enrollment.

The number of Catholic schools over the last 40 years has dropped statewide from 1,400 to 750, according to the New York Catholic Conference. Their enrollment has declined from more than a half-million to 295,000.

But Cultrara maintains the decline isn't due to fewer parents wanting to provide their children a Catholic school education. Instead, he said rising health insurance costs and contractual demands are driving tuition increases, making it too expensive for many families to afford a private education.

The average annual Catholic elementary school tuition is \$4,000, Cultrara said. For high school it's \$4,700.

Egan said making private schools more affordable will keep enrollment from dropping and therefore ease over-

crowding in public schools, allowing per-pupil aid to stretch further.

Lubin said the trickle of Catholic school closures in the past has not had an adverse impact on public schools, but he acknowledged the many closures this year could affect enrollment at some public "neighborhood" schools.

Public tax dollars already fund a number of services for nonpublic school students, such as transportation, textbooks and other educational materials. State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, in a 2002 analysis, said state law would not prohibit more extensive public spending at nonpublic schools.

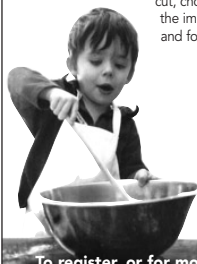
That analysis said state aid could be used to pay for computers, teacher training and special education to help failing private school students. It did not, however, cover the issue of tax credits, and Spitzer's office declined comment for this article.

Charles Carrier, spokesman for Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, said the Democratic-controlled house has long supported providing state aid to nonpublic schools for a variety of purposes. However, Carrier said the Assembly sees the tax-credit concept as something that takes "critically needed funds away from the public school system."

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The Brooklyn Papers PARENT

Making the move from the crib to the bed

Q: My son moved from his crib to his new youth bed and was fine for a while, but now he's afraid to stay in his bed alone. — a mother

A: When a toddler switches to a bed, timing is everything. An abrupt transition overwhelms a tiny sleeper accustomed to the security of a crib. One Atlanta reader recalls how her little girl clearly signaled

she was ready to move out of her crib: "When do I get out of this locked-up bed?"

The earliest appropriate age for moving a toddler out of the crib is about 18 months, says Jodi Mindell, PhD, author of "Sleeping Through the Night" (HarperCollins, 1997). Sticking to a routine similar to the one your child has been on, and avoiding any other big changes will help in the transition to sleeping in a bed.

Helping to make bedtime comfortable for your child is also important. Let your child help pick out themed sheets and blankets, and add favorite stuffed animals to keep away loneliness. Plus, put up a guardrail for extra security.

"We had the same problem," says a father. "We made sure our son's door was open, and our door was open. We told him nothing would happen to him, and he needed to learn to sleep in his own bed. We had a hard time but we won."

About 25 percent of all young children have trouble either falling asleep or staying asleep through the night, Mindell says.

Parent-to-Parent



By Betsy Flagler

If your child says he's afraid, explore the possible sources. Maybe it's the shadows dancing across his floor, or strange noises. After a day of creative fantasy play, it can be hard for a youngster to turn off his blossoming imagination and fall asleep alone.

One 3-year-old, who had gone to sleep by himself and had slept through the night since he was a baby, started waking up, crying in the night because of nightmares. His parents discovered a new fear at bedtime: He had trouble falling asleep because he was afraid

his bad dreams would recur.

In Jo Frost's new book "Superman" (Hyperion, 2005) and on her ABC-TV show by the same name, the British nanny offers a technique to break the cycle of a child's dependency on his parents at bedtime.

When you put your child to bed, don't get in bed with him, Frost suggests. Say good night, give him a hug, and tell him it's time to go to sleep. Then sit near the bed on the floor. Sit in silence, avoid debates and don't look at your child. If he tries to talk to you, just say "Sleep." If he gets up, put him back in the bed without making eye contact. Over the course of several nights, repeat the stages and gradually move farther away from your child's bed until you work your way out of the room while he's still awake. At the last stage, sit outside the door with a slightly open.

Two key points: • Make sure your little one gets enough sleep. If he's sleep-deprived, he's likely to have trouble relaxing enough to fall asleep. Overworked children get wound up and their fears escalate. • Fear also can spring from the insecurity of an erratic

schedule. Agree with your spouse on a comforting sequence of events before a set bedtime: a bath, jammies on, a favorite story, a familiar song, cuddling, and off to bed. Other ideas from readers:

• Use a flashlight to spotlight what your child says is scary in his room, such as clothes hanging in an open closet, or a stuffed clown perched in a dark corner.

• Shadows can be freaky, so show how they work. Use a flashlight and your hands to make shapes on your child's ceiling. Identify spooky sounds such as creaky pipes, a coat hanger tapping on a door, or leaves blowing against the house.

• Use white noise such as a fan or fish tank to soothe a restless child.

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Pos shows support for Olympics, opposition for West Side stadium

By Larry McShane
Associated Press

A poll released March 3 found that while New Yorkers overwhelmingly support the city's efforts to attract the 2012 Olympics, a majority remain opposed to building the \$1.7 billion stadium that Mayor Michael Bloomberg says is necessary to lure the Summer Games.

The poll of New York voters, conducted by Quinnipiac University, also showed they wanted the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to get the highest price possible for the site above the rail yards on Manhattan's West Side.

"Voters, many of whom are strap-hangers, want the agency that operates their subways and buses to get all the money it can," said Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

The MTA has also promised to get top dollar for development rights over its Long Island Rail Road yards, at Atlantic and Flatbush avenues in Downtown Brooklyn, where Bruce Ratner wants to build an arena for his New Jersey Nets basketball team as part of an overall plan that includes 17 office and residential skyscrapers extending into Prospect Heights. The city, state and Ratner signed a memorandum of understanding this week for the Atlantic Yards plan, but the MTA stayed out of

the agreement.

The MTA has yet to complete an appraisal of the Brooklyn site and Ratner has not yet tendered an offer.

TransGas Energy Systems made a \$700 million bid for the Manhattan site two weeks ago, topping the \$600 million offer made by Madison Square Garden. The New York Jets, the early front-runner for the site and the proposed private, tented, offered \$100 million for the development rights.

Asked if they supported the construction of a new stadium, 56 percent of New Yorkers said no, the survey showed.

Another 35 percent supported the stadium, while the rest offered no opinion.

In Manhattan, where the stadium would rise above the Hudson River, 64 percent opposed the construction while 27 percent supported it.

When asked about hosting the Summer Games, 63 percent said yes and just 30 percent said no.

The numbers are contradictory, since Bloomberg and International Olympic Committee representatives have said the stadium is central to any successful proposal for the 2012 Olympics.

The poll was released one

week after the IOC's evaluation commission finished its four-day stay in New York and one day after Jets President Jay Cross announced the team had no intention of building a new stadium anywhere but the West Side above the rail yards.

"We believe such a facility will best serve the interests of all New Yorkers," Ratner said and we have long since ruled out any other location," Cross said.

Stadium opponents quickly seized on the numbers to reiterate their call for a new stadium in Queens or the abandonment of the Manhattan proposal.

"The debate on the West

Side stadium should be over," said Kinsey Case, of the Hell's Kitchen-Hudson Yards Alliance. "New Yorkers have said for many months that they overwhelmingly do not want a stadium for the West Side."

TransGas President Adam Victor said he thought the poll showed that the public was reacting negatively to what it perceived as favoritism toward the Jets, who currently play in East Rutherford, N.J. "It shows the good sense of New Yorkers," he said.

Charles Schaefer, spokesman for Cablevision Systems Corp., which owns Madison Square

Garden, declined to comment.

Jets spokeswoman Marissa Shorenstein said in a statement: "It's not surprising given that Cablevision has spent millions on false and misleading ads, but one thing hasn't changed: New Yorkers support this project so long as it pays for itself, and the Independent Budget Office confirmed it will."

The IBO is a fiscal watchdog that studied the stadium plan last year.

Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,435 registered voters between Feb. 22 and March 1. The poll had a margin of error of 2.6 percentage points.

Jets lobbyist on Senate payroll

Was paid more than \$40,000 while seeking influence for team

Associated Press

A top New York City public relations specialist was paid more than \$44,000 by the state Senate last year even while being listed as a lobbyist seeking to influence state government for the New York Jets, state records show.

The records from the state comptroller's office showed Kenneth Sunshine was paid \$1,846 every two weeks for his job as a media consultant with the state Senate's Democratic minority from early January through early No-

vember of 2004.

Meanwhile, records that his firm, Ken Sunshine Consultants Inc., filed with the state Lobbying Commission indicate the firm was under contract with the Jets for \$5,000 a month for "lobbying services."

It is illegal for members of the state Legislature to also lobby. Sunshine told the New York Daily News, which first reported the arrangement, that he had done no lobbying for the Jets while on the Senate payroll.

"I only registered because I would

run into [Assembly Speaker] Shelly Silver and [New York City Council Speaker] Gifford Miller and a few other politicians at fundraisers, and everyone knows I do communications for the Jets on the stadium," he told the Daily News.

The football Jets are looking to build a new stadium in Manhattan, an initiative that would require state and city approval. The Jets currently play their games at Giants Stadium in New Jersey.

State Senate Minority Leader David Paterson told the Daily News he was

unaware that Sunshine had registered as a lobbyist.

"Frankly, I'm a little disappointed because Ken never told me about this," Paterson said.

On Monday, Paterson spokesman Michael Jones-Bey noted that the minority leader was opposed to the Jets stadium plan and that Sunshine had not registered as a lobbyist when he was hired in January 2004 to advise Senate Democrats on media issues.

A letter on file with the state Lobbying Commission indicating Sunshine was a Jets lobbyist was dated April 13, 2004.

GRAFFITI...

Continued from page 1

"The rash of new graffiti is really bad," Stanton said, but added that she knew the police had an effective method for capturing the vandals.

"They have specialists who know about these things and learn to recognize the signatures," she said, referring to what are also called "tags."

Graffiti vandalism had been largely dormant in Brooklyn Heights in recent years, as police and the NYPD's vandal squad stepped up efforts to track down and bust vandals.

"Graffiti's been one of the big issues for the city," said Capt. Philip Sferazza, commander of the local 84th Precinct. "It's a tough collar to make, so we have to catch someone in the act. We really have to put fixers there," he said, meaning that after a tag has been painted over, they send out undercover police to watch the "fresh blank canvas" to see if it is hit again.

"We made two graffiti arrests trying to track graffiti artists down," Sferazza said. Of the recent rash of wall painting, he said the precinct was on it.

"I know we have something submitted to the vandals unit, and we just did a major survey of the command," the captain said, adding that once the warm weather arrives, there will be a cleanup initiative in the Heights as well.

Sferazza said that although his precinct battles graffiti on a regular basis, in the Heights "it's not common."

"Unfortunately, it's usually kids in the neighborhood; it's kids who are walking through there or live in the area," he said. "In the past we had a thing in the Heights, and the guy was hitting Montague Street," with the tag of "Net," said Sferazza. They later discovered he lived on the street himself.

"He was hitting all the bathrooms, it was all over the mailboxes, all over DUMBO," Sferazza said. Eventually the vandals unit tracked him down and arrested him.

"We watched him, we followed him and then he actually relocated out of state."

DWI DAD...

Continued from page 1

tried to take off in reverse, parents and other nearby pedestrians pulled him from the car. One woman, who gave her name to a reporter as Maria, said, "He was numbing. I just gotta park my car. I just gotta park my car."

Gonzalez could not be reached for comment by press time and the district attorney's office had no lawyer listed for him yet.

A spokesman for the D.A.'s office said that Gonzalez was also charged with assault, vehicular assault, reckless endangerment, criminal possession of a controlled substance, endangering the welfare of a child, operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, possession of alcohol beverages in certain motor vehicles, aggravated unlicensed operations of a motor vehicle and leaving the scene of an incident without reporting. Gonzalez had not yet been arraigned at press time.

HEALTH, LIFE & FINANCE

Konstadt named to head anesthesiology at MMC

Maimonides Medical Center

Pamela S. Brier, president & CEO of Maimonides Medical Center, has announced the appointment of Steven Konstadt, MD, FACC, MBA, as chairman of the Anesthesiology Department.

"Dr. Konstadt is a recognized leader in anesthesiology," said Brier. "I am confident that his exceptional knowledge and experience will be of enormous value to Maimonides as we continue to evolve and provide the most advanced care and treatment to our patients."

"I am committed to Maimonides and its mission to serve our patients in a dignified and comprehensive manner," Konstadt said. "Based on



Dr. Steven Konstadt

my experience, I strongly believe that with the continued support of the faculty and administration, I will be able to advance the Department of Anesthesiology's reputation for providing superb clinical

care, operational efficiency, quality education, and important clinical research."

Konstadt comes to Maimonides Medical Center from the Mount Sinai Medical Center, where he was professor of Anesthesiology and the director of the Division of Cardiothoracic Anesthesia. He also served as their executive vice chair.

He has held visiting professorships at Cornell University Medical Center, Yale University, University of Washington, Massachusetts General Hospital, Cedars-Sinai Hospital and Duke University Medical Center as well.

A respected researcher, Konstadt is regularly published in peer-reviewed publications and has co-authored several textbooks pertaining to anesthesia and cardiac anesthesia. He also has given numerous lectures throughout the world.

Konstadt has served on the Board of Directors of the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists, a member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and a member of the New York State Society of Anesthesiologists.

A graduate of Columbia University and Yale University

Medical School, Konstadt completed his residency in Anesthesia at Massachusetts General Hospital. He then became the Chief Cardiothoracic Anesthesia Fellow at Mount Sinai Hospital.

He also received certification in Perioperative Echocardiography and as a Diplomate of the American Board of Anesthesiology. Konstadt returned to Columbia University to earn an MBA that focused on Management, Finance, and Turnaround.

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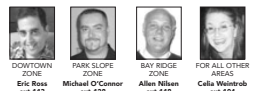
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Teachers stand up for troop-trashing kids

LETTERS

To the editor:

Jotham Sederstrom's article, "Slope kids bash American soldier" (The Brooklyn Papers, Feb. 26) is based on an inauthentic Park Slope residents. Teacher Alex Kunhardt was unjustly misrepresented for sending his students letters to U.S. soldiers. He was engaging his students to think critically about the war in Iraq and its implications for the young men and women in the military. Allowing students to raise questions and share their thoughts with the soldiers who are directly affected by this government's unjust war is part of their right to freedom of expression.

Mr. Sederstrom quotes excerpts from the letters that reinforce his opinion about "The Park Slope mindset" and cites the New York Post, a pro-war newspaper. He does not include quotes from those who support Mr. Kunhardt.

Mr. Sederstrom should be aware that opposition to the war is not unique to Park Slope. In

fact, recent national polls have shown that half of America thinks the invasion of Iraq was a mistake.

A recent Associated Press report cites the number of U.S. military casualties topping 1,500. Military Families Speak Out, an organization of over 2,000 military families, "urges politicians on the local, state and national level to call for the re-

turn of all our troops to their home countries, for troops to be taken care of when they get home, and for an end to the policies that allowed this reckless military misadventure to happen.

Instead of lining up behind the Board of Education in criticizing Mr. Kunhardt's actions, it would be more productive if our local politicians took issue with the stepped up recruitment efforts at our high schools. While our city resources are affected by the diversion of federal funds to war and military, almost half the African-American males in New York are unemployed. This statistic should be on

the front page of our newspapers and command the attention of our elected representatives.

— Gloria Mattena, parent of an MS 51 student (The author has run for a Park Slope City Council seat as the Green Party candidate.)

To the editor:
Jotham Sederstrom and your paper indulged in extreme hyperbole in your article. Ill-advised or not, the letters of the students did not "trash the nation" because every newspaper except the New York Post recognized that this was not a new story. If our country, or, for that matter, our military can be shaken by the thoughts of a few 11 and 12 year olds, then we're in trouble.

— Amy Peck, Park Slope

To the editor:
As a co-worker of Robert Jacobs Sr. (from whom the Post received most of their information) and with a child attending MS 51, I feel that an inordinate amount of unfair press has been directed at the students and Mr. Kunhardt in particular.

To insinuate that the children were prompted to write anything other than their own opinions is purely ridiculous. Even though poor judgment in sending the letters may have been used, I can assure you this was not done maliciously.

When Mr. Jacobs appeared on "Hannity and Colmes" on Feb. 22, Mr. Colmes (who had the letters in front of him) indicated that 80 percent of each letter (with the exception of one) were in fact pro-troop and pro-soldier but some did indicate an objection to the war. This fact was not disputed by either Messrs. Hannity or Colmes. However, since the Post and Fox News Channel are privy to the letters sent by the children, we'll never really know.

I do not have the letters that you allege condemn the soldiers. When I am righting the wrong inflicted on these children by all this negative publicity? Although I was upset when Mr. Jacobs told me about receiving the letters, I am equally upset by the actions taken against Mr. Kunhardt and the children of MS 51 by Mr. Jacobs, the Post, Fox News Channel and now The Park Slope Paper. What I don't understand is why this prevalence would not be taken directly to either the school or the teacher.

I feel that the route taken by Jacobs and his father in response to these letters was vindictive (confirmed by Mr. Jacobs' TV appearance when he said to his son before finishing his appearance that "we got him").

— Glenn Hoffman, Park Slope

Golden's homophobic

To the editor:

I am writing in response to your coverage of [State Sen.] Marty Golden's complaints about the bus shelter advertisements for the program "The L Word" (The Brooklyn Papers, March 5).

It is unfortunate that your article did not put this latest attack in its proper context, which is Golden's continued agenda of oppression of Brooklyn's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

It is clear that his real objection is to the content of the show, which depicts lesbian characters.

It seems unlikely he would be voicing such strong objec-

tions for a show such as UPN's "America's Next Top Model."

In addition, at a time of MTA budget deficits, fare increases and service cuts, it is unfortunate that the senator is urging the elimination of funding sources to promote his own homophobic agenda.

If he is truly concerned about helping the children of our borough, I urge him to support increased funding for programs in schools that promote tolerance for all of our citizens, regardless of sexual orientation.

— Seth G. Slade, Park Slope

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In Bay Ridge, Fedders doesn't mean cool

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

When investors from across the country descend on tiny Liberty Corner, N.J., next month for the Fedders Corporation's annual stockholders meeting, much will be said about weather and its effect on the air conditioning manufacturer's bottom line.

The exceptionally long winter and last year's mild summer each played a hand in what the company's chief financial officer bluntly described this week as three quarters of declining profits.

But what did not play a role, Fedders CFO Robert Laurent told the Brooklyn Papers, is its tenuous and somewhat coincidental association to a style of drably built condominiums and row-house apartment buildings that many people in Brooklyn say are marring the landscape.

Perhaps most vocal among the complainants decrying the development of "Fedders houses," as they have come to be known, are residents of Bay Ridge, whose neighborhood awaits city approval of a rezoning measure that would bar such housing developments.

So ugly and bland are these buildings, say some, that their most striking architectural trait may well be the air conditioner sleeve itself.

"It's not even on our radar," Laurent told The Papers, adding that, unlike Fiscal Year 2004, the preceding year was one of record sales totaling \$421.7 million. "But I would hope the houses are as well built and as high quality as the air conditioners they're named after."

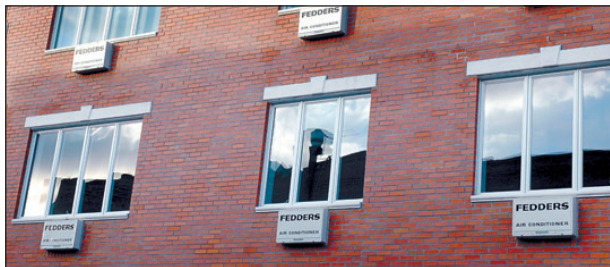
The colloquialism, while originating by most accounts in Bay Ridge several years ago, has spread to all corners of the city in recent months, thanks to preservation efforts like the 249-block down-zoning proposal for the southwest Brooklyn neighborhood that, if passed later this month, could reduce by half the potential number of row-house-style condos built there.

Eager to fit in, the term has been uttered by no less an authority than Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who said it at an Oct. 30 speaking engagement in Dyker Heights.

Chris Coffey, a mayoral spokesman, said Bloomberg first learned of the term while exploring a run for public office in 2000. That year, the down-zoning proposal in Bay Ridge was still in its earliest stages and being studied by Community Board 10. Since then, however, Bloomberg has used the term "Fedders houses" on numerous occasions and, said Coffey, uses it when referring to zoning measures in other neighborhoods.



Can you tell which one of these new "Fedders houses" is in Bay Ridge and which one is in Park Slope? Didn't think so. For the record, the top photo was taken on 17th Street in Park Slope, and the bottom on 68th Street in Bay Ridge.



hoods and boroughs.

"New York City has great dialogue and the mayor has to speak all of its dialects," said Coffey, who also cites "McLassion," a term used heavily on Staten Island to describe the large-scale, cookie-cutter houses that dot the borough. "But it's increased, and the more he goes out, the more he hears the term," Coffey said of the Fedders reference.

By all accounts, the term was coined by Bay Ridge resident Victoria Hofmo, a longtime community activist and a member of Councilman Vincent Gentile's neighborhood preservation committee. A fixture at local zoning and land use meetings, Hofmo believes the term first came to her in 1998, while she was fighting to landmark a block of homes on 95th Street between Marine Avenue and Shore Road. While she was successful in gaining city landmarks designation for one of the buildings, a 158-year-old Greek revival home, two thirds of the block was eventually converted into condominiums and installed with those ubiquitous through-the-wall Fedders air conditioning sleeves.

Years later, Hofmo said, the phrase was used by then-Community Board 10 Chairman Stephen Harrison, in the early stages of the Bay Ridge rezoning initiative. When she asked where he had heard the term, Harrison told Hofmo that he had borrowed it from her and before long he was giving her credit publicly.

"I started using it a lot then and after while I noticed a lot of people were saying it," said Hofmo. "In Bay Ridge, people just know what it means."

Not so in Liberty Corner, where the Fedders Corporation first began selling manual fans 109 years ago. Since branching out to include air conditioners, the company has expanded across the nation and now boasts manufacturing facilities in Illinois, North Carolina, New Mexico, New Jersey and Texas. In 2002, Fedders established a factory in India, four new factories in China and another in the Philippines.

Frigidair is the company's closest competitor, said Laurent. But while Fedders continues to grow, the air conditioners have remained largely unchanged, he said. Laurent said that while the window units have become smaller and smaller, and their style "more appealing," the wall-mounted units, such as those seen on the Bay Ridge condominiums, have stayed the same size. And whether referring to the "Eubank W12," the "Sun W12" or the "Eubank W12," each model has the company's name imprinted along the outside.

"I guess it's a well known name," said Laurent. "And we're proud of the fact that everyone knows it, but I hope in this case people aren't using it in a derogative way."

Triamnic is kosher; can Maalox be far behind?

By Elizabeth LeSuer
Associated Press

Name-brand foods like Oreo cookies, Duncan Hines cake mixes and Raisin Bran cereal are among the thousands of packaged goods on supermarket shelves that are certified as kosher.

But it's not so easy to find kosher-certified over-the-counter medicines, which Rabbi David Heber called "the last frontier."

That may be changing.

The Orthodox Union, the

most recognized certifier of kosher products in the United States, has endorsed Triamnic cough syrup, making it the first mainstream over-the-counter medication the union has deemed acceptable under the dietary laws of Orthodox Judaism.

Efforts to develop a kosher

Maalox are in the preliminary stages.

Triamnic, in packages bearing the OU symbol, was shipped to stores beginning last July after a division of the brand's parent company, Novartis Consumer Health, worked with the union for a year and a half to certify eight varieties of the syrup.

Smaller labels and herbal or homeopathic lines have been certified in the past. And the antacid Tums was approved by Diamond-K, a smaller certifier, in the late 1990s, according to Rabbi Rachmiel Liberman, Diamond-K's executive director.

But many mainstream, brand-name products are problematic for observant Jews because of ingredients like gelatin or glycerin, which often contain flavors that are considered lifesaving. Orthodox rabbis say vitamins or products used to treat non-life-threatening conditions should be certified as kosher when possible, especially because they often contain flavors that make them more palatable.

Rabbi Eliyahu Safran, senior rabbinic coordinator for the Orthodox Union, said the kosher-certified cough syrup would appeal broadly not only to Jews who keep kosher but to others who follow religious dietary guidelines or are lactose intolerant.

Manufacturing facilities certified by the Orthodox Union are inspected by representatives who check a product's ingredients and the methods of sterilization used to clean equipment used for non-kosher materials, Safran said. "Whether it be from a cleanliness standpoint or making sure that these are the finest ingredients that have gone through certification, I think the process has over time become synonymous with quality," said Debra D'Amico, senior brand manager for Triamnic.

To certify Triamnic, the over-the-counter division of Novartis first sent the OU a list of about 50 raw ingredients in the eight liquid varieties, according to Allison Johnson, who deals with quality assurance at the plant in Lincoln, Neb.

Only one raw material, an orange-flavored, had to be reconfigured to meet the standards for kosher parve, which means no ingredients contain any dairy or animal products.

In Borough Park, home to many Orthodox Jews, some stores stocked name-brand cough medicines as certified as kosher, and at least one sold natural alternatives. A few women who did not want to be identified said they would give their sick children a non-certified medicine but would choose a kosher brand if it was available.

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